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# ILLUMINATI

WILLIAMSON
CRYSTAL
WALKER
HENDERSON

## LIFE OF CRIME

MARVEL

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MARVEL
#1
2015
ILUMINATI
WILLIAMSON • CRYSTAL • RAUCH

Welcome, criminals, crooks and evildoers!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

Within these pages is a tale of crime and horror where you'll witness that escaping a life of crime is easier said than done!

You'll meet the mighty Titania, a woman who was gifted her powers by Doctor Doom in a world beyond the stars...and now she loves to fight and steal just as much as she loves her husband, the Absorbing Man.

But a recent taste of freedom after too many days behind bars has made Titania question her lot in life...

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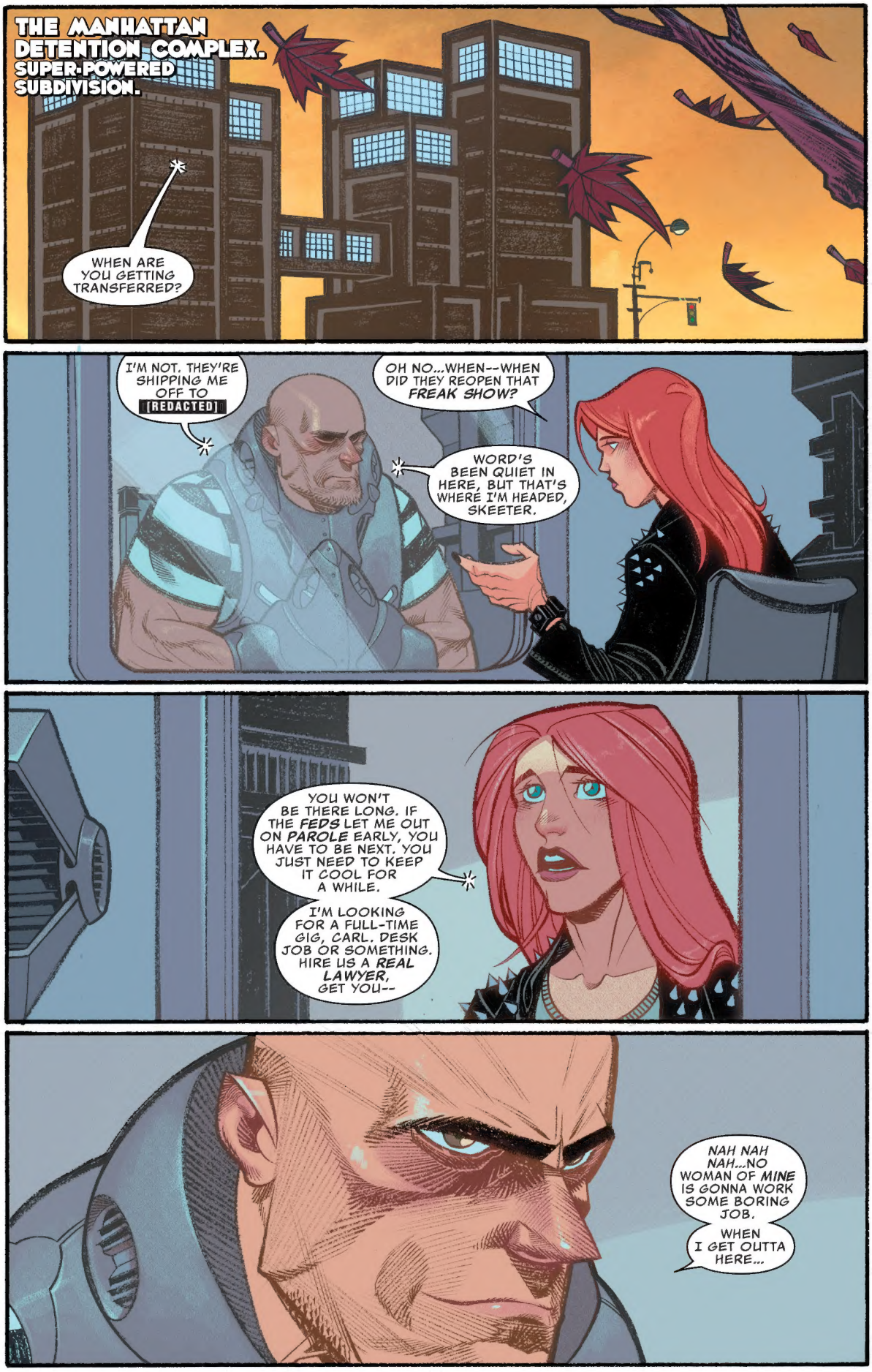
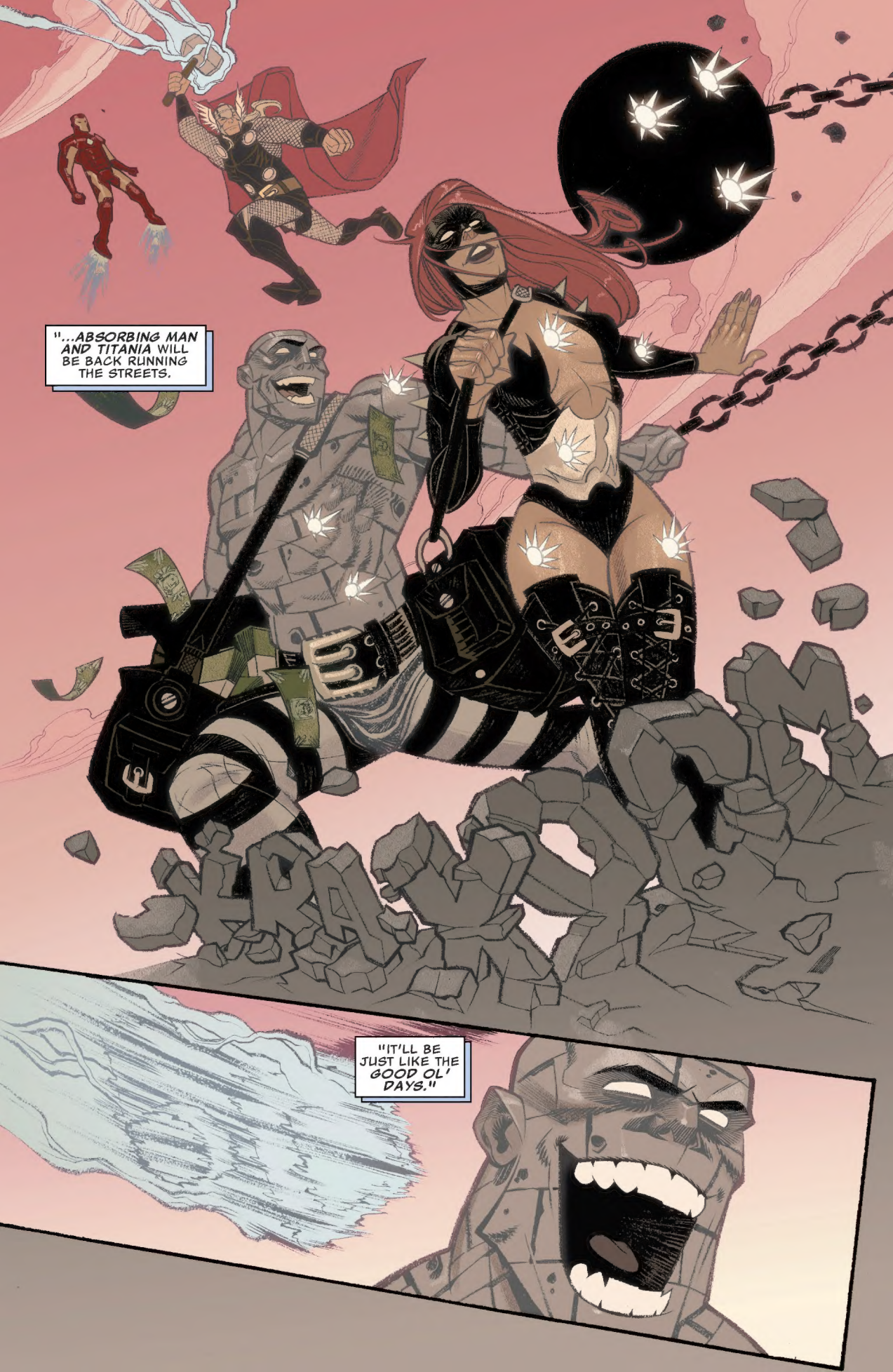
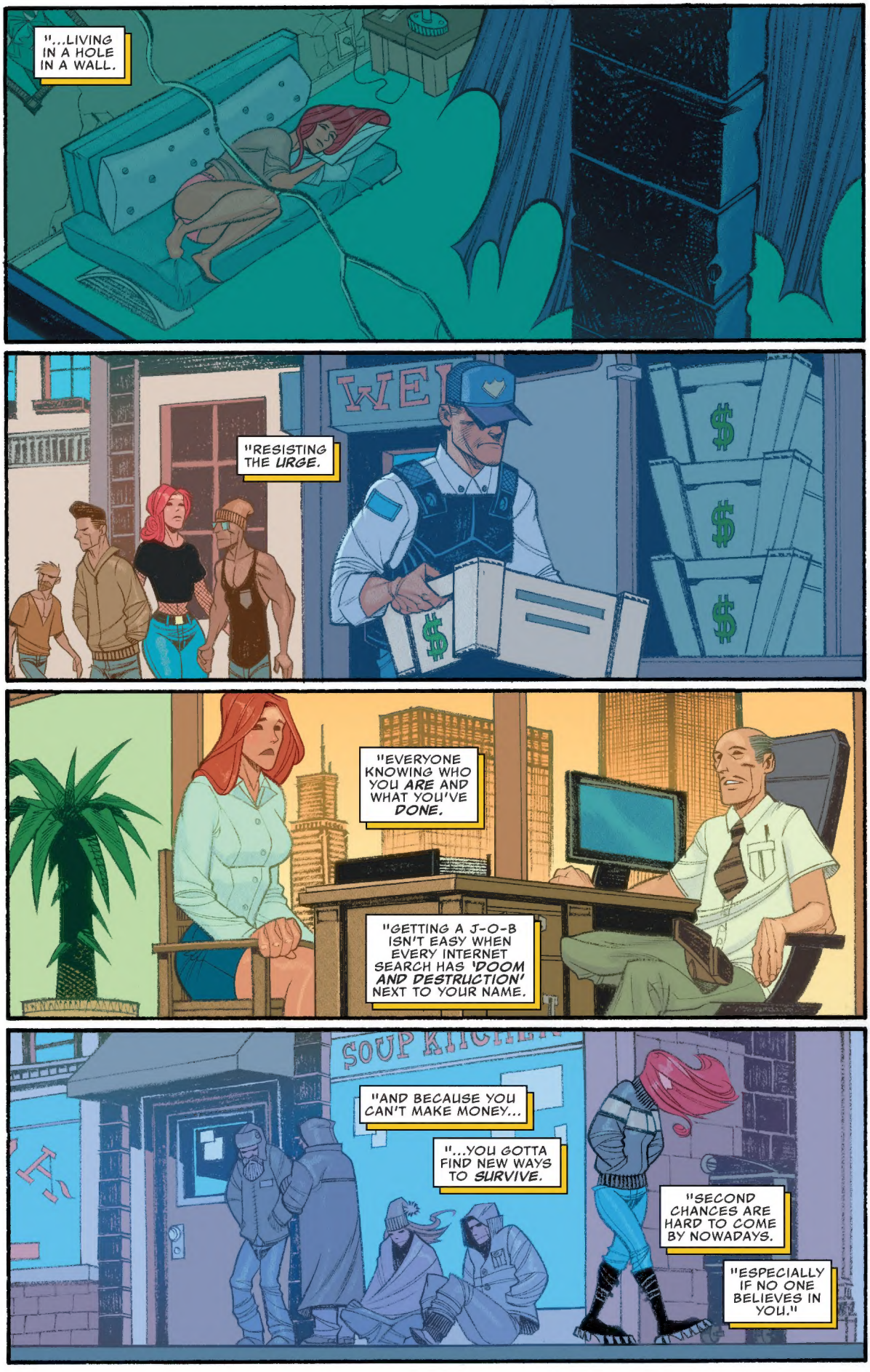

THE MANHATTAN DETENTION COMPLEX. SUPER-POWERED SUBDIVISION.
WHEN ARE YOU GETTING TRANSFERRED?
I'M NOT. THEY'RE SHIPPING ME OFF TO [REDACTED]
OH NO...WHEN--WHEN DID THEY REOPEN THAT FREAK SHOW?
WORD'S BEEN QUIET IN HERE, BUT THAT'S WHERE I'M HEADED, SKEETER.
YOU WON'T BE THERE LONG. IF THE FEDS LET ME OUT ON PAROLE EARLY, YOU HAVE TO BE NEXT. YOU JUST NEED TO KEEP IT COOL FOR A WHILE.
I'M LOOKING FOR A FULL-TIME GIG, CARL. DESK JOB OR SOMETHING. HIRE US A REAL LAWYER, GET YOU--
NAH NAH NAH...NO WOMAN OF MINE IS GONNA WORK SOME BORING JOB.
WHEN I GET OUTTA HERE...


"...ABSORBING MAN AND TITANIA WILL BE BACK RUNNING THE STREETS.
KRAK
"IT'LL BE JUST LIKE THE GOOD OL' DAYS."

THERE WAS NOTHING GOOD ABOUT GETTING OUR ASSES HANDED TO US BY THE AVENGERS EVERY WEEK.
IT'S GETTING WORSE, WE CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS. THE LAST FEW MONTHS HAVE BEEN ROUGH AND...
...WHEN YOU GET OUT WE'RE DONE. NO MORE ABSORBING MAN AND TITANIA. JUST CARL AND MARY.
YEAH, YEAH. OKAY, OKAY.
PROMISE ME.
I SAID OKAY.
PROMISE ME.
MARY...
CARL...
FINE. I PROMISE. FROM HERE ON OUT...
"...NO MORE BAD GUY."
TITANIA, YOU STAYING OUT OF TROUBLE?

DAMN, SHE-HULK. YOU TAILING ME?
ONE OF MY CLIENTS IS A GUEST IN LOCKUP.
YOU PLOTTING CRUSHER'S NEXT GREAT ESCAPE?
NOPE. WE'RE WALKING THE LINE THIS TIME. GOING LEGIT.
YOU AND I WON'T HAVE TO DUEL AT DAWN EVER AGAIN.
I'LL STILL BE WATCHING YOU.
YOU KNOW HOW CREEPY THAT SOUNDS?
JUST SAYING. DON'T WANT YOU TO FALL BACK INTO BAD HABITS OUT HERE. WOMAN TO WOMAN... YOU CAN DO BETTER.
KEEP IT TO YOURSELF, GIRL POWER.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU GET OUT OF PRISON...


"...LIVING IN A HOLE IN A WALL.
"RESISTING THE *URGE*.
"EVERYONE KNOWING WHO YOU *ARE* AND WHAT YOU'VE *DONE*.
"GETTING A J-O-B ISN'T EASY WHEN EVERY INTERNET SEARCH HAS *'DOOM AND DESTRUCTION'* NEXT TO YOUR NAME.
SOUP KITCHEN
"AND BECAUSE YOU CAN'T MAKE MONEY...
"...YOU GOTTA FIND NEW WAYS TO *SURVIVE*.
"SECOND CHANCES ARE HARD TO COME BY NOWADAYS.
"ESPECIALLY IF NO ONE BELIEVES IN YOU."

SO DON'T FEED ME SOME LINE ABOUT BEING A BETTER PERSON.
NOW WHY DON'T YOU GO BE FABULOUS AND GREEN ON YOUR OWN TIME?
WAIT, HOLD ON, I'M SORRY. HAVE YOU...HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF CONSTRUCTION OR...?
YOU SEE THIS? THE FEDS SLAPPED IT ON ME WHEN I GOT PAROLED. COURT ORDERED.
TRACKS MY EVERY MOVE.
IF I USE MY POWERS OR, HELL...EVEN BREAK A SWEAT, I'LL HAVE THE AUTHORITIES BUSTING MY HEAD.
LISTEN, I REPRESENT AN ORGANIZATION THAT WORKS WITH FORMER CONVICTS.
DO...DO YOU NEED HELP?
NOT FROM YOU, JENNIFER.
WHEN YOU USE MY FIRST NAME LIKE THAT, I KNOW YOU MEAN BUSINESS, MARY.
I'M SAYING... I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HOOK YOU UP WITH A JOB. WON'T BE GREAT, BUT IT'LL BE--
SAVE YOUR CHARITY.
I WOULD NEVER--EVER--TAKE A JOB FROM YOU.
EVER.

THE NEXT DAY...
THIS SUCKS. STUPID SHE-HULK.
YOU SEE HER?
GOT MY VERY OWN SUPER-BADDIE ON THE PAYROLL, BABY.
A BONAFIDE VILLAINESS...
PAULIE'S PAWNS
Vizcaya's PIZZA
...PROTECTING MY ASSETS...
...ANYONE WHO MESSES WITH ME AND MINE GETS A SMACK-DOWN.
ISN'T THAT, Y'KNOW...
...DANGEROUS?
WHO? TITANIA?
SHE'S A PUPPY ON A SHORT LEASH.
HOUSE-BROKEN.
THAT'S IT. I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF--
EVERYONE HIT THE GROUND--

--OR BE READY TO MEET YOUR MAKER!
AND TRUST ME...WE WILL NOT HESITATE TO END YOU.
OH MY GOD!
TITANIA--DO SOMETHING!
SON OF A BUTT.
SMASH
WHO'S THE MUSCLE?!
DON'T KNOW, BUT TAKE HER OUT!
AAAaHHHH!
YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THIS.

DIE!
ZAP!
SIGH
THAT WAS MY FAVORITE...
...PANT SUIT.
KSHK KSHK
PAULIE'S PAWNS
I HOPE YOU HAVE INSURANCE, PAULIE.
YOU WERE IN ON THIS, WEREN'T YOU? THESE ARE YOUR HENCHMEN!
THIS WAS A SETUP!
YOU GOT ME. I'M THE MASTERMIND WHOSE BIG PLAN WAS TO BEAT UP HER OWN PEOPLE.
PUT 'EM DOWN, TITANIA!

BE COOL. NO NEED FOR THIS TO GO ANY FURTHER.
YOUR WRIST TRACKER'S ALARMS ARE GOING OFF LIKE CRAZY. YOUR PAROLE OFFICER WAS WORRIED YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN TEARING UP THE PLACE.
THIS DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A FIGHT, TITANIA.
LISTEN TO LUKE...DON'T MAKE A SCENE AND WE CAN GET THIS ALL SORTED AT LOCKUP.
BUT I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, IRON FIST!
I ACTUALLY--
SHE ROBBED ME!
THIEF! THIEF!
THIS IS B.S., GUYS. CALL SHE-HULK AND ASK HER.
WE WILL, BUT...YOU STILL VIOLATED YOUR PAROLE BY USING YOUR POWERS.
WITH YOUR HISTORY...WE GOTTA PLAY IT SAFE.
I'M NOT GOING--

--BACK!
OH GEEZ, CAGE, I DIDN'T MEAN THAT.
I JUST... I GUESS DON'T KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH ANYMORE.
ALL THE MORE REASON FOR YOU TO COME IN!
DAMMIT, IRON FIST, LISTEN TO ME!
PAULIE'S PAWN
UGH...
YOU ALL, GET OUT OF HERE! IT'S NOT SAFE!
RRRAAGGHHH!

YEAH, NO.
SMAK
IMPOSSIBLE.
SMASH!
YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD GET IT, CAGE. YOU KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE WHEN YOU GOT OUTTA PRISON...
WHICH IS WHY I'M TELLING YOU... GIVE UP.
THE AVENGERS ARE ON THEIR WAY. YOU'RE DONE.
WELL, AIN'T THIS A PICKLE?

JUST ANOTHER POOR SOUL TRYING TO EARN A LIVING BEING BULLIED BY SO-CALLED HEROES.
THOUGHT YOU HAD CALLED IT QUITS AFTER THAT LAST ASS KICKING YOU GOT, HOOD?
I'VE BEEN GIVEN A NEW... PURPOSE IN THIS LIFE, IRON FIST.
ONCE A LOSER...ALWAYS A LOSER.
UM, I'M NOT WITH HIM.
IS THAT ANY WAY TO GREET AN OLD FRIEND, TITANIA? HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU A NEW MAGIC TRICK I'VE BEEN PRACTICING. IT'S CALLED...
...DOOR OF DORMAMMU!
HASTA LA VISTA, CAGE.
WHAT'RE YOU--
NO!
CRAP.

WELCOME TO MY LAIR!
POOF!
WHAT THE HELL?!
YOU JUST RUINED EVERYTHING!
"THANKS FOR THE SAVE, HOOD."
"NO PROBLEM, TITANIA. MY PLEASURE. HONOR AMONG THIEVES, Y'KNOW?"
I DIDN'T NEED SAVING! I COULD HAVE TAKEN BERT AND ERNIE BACK THERE, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO.
YOU'VE NEVER BEEN THE KNIGHT-IN-SHINING-ARMOR TYPE, HOOD. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I'M REPRESENTING A NEW... UNION OF SORTS.
A SECRET ARMY IN NEED OF SOLDIERS TO--
THANKS BUT NO THANKS.
I'LL SEE MYSELF OUT.

SO WHEN ARE YOU JOINING THE AVENGERS?
WHAT NOW?
I MEAN YOUR INVITE HAS TO BE IN THE MAIL BY NOW, RIGHT?
YOU PLAY THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW GAME. BUST UP A FEW CRIMES... TURN ON A FEW OF YOUR OLD FRIENDS AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, YOU'RE ALL BUDDY-BUDDY, TAG-TEAMING IT WITH SHE-HULK. LIVING IT UP IN A FANCY ROOM IN AVENGERS TOWER.
BUT DEEP INSIDE YOU'LL BE THINKING...
..."I SOLD OUT."
YOU DON'T KNOW ME.
THAT'S YOUR FUTURE, DOLL.
DON'T CALL ME "DOLL."
THIS IS WHAT I SEE: CARL GETS OUT OF PRISON. WE MOVE TO THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. WHITE PICKET FENCE. NO ONE KNOWS US AND WE'RE FREE.
NORMAL.
ABSORBING MAN WON'T GO FOR THAT. IT'D DRIVE HIM BONKERS.
I GIVE IT A MONTH BEFORE HE'S KNOCKING OVER MOM-AND-POPS. WHAT'S YOUR SMALL TOWN GONNA THINK OF THAT, SISTER MARY?
IS THIS WHERE YOU DROP A BUNCH OF CLICHÉ MOTIVATION BOMBS ON ME?
NEVER GIVE UP? DREAM BIG? HANG IN THERE?
HOW ABOUT...

...YOU'RE GONNA DIE.
WHAT?
ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'RE GONNA PUSH TOO HARD AND SOME ROOKIE HERO WITH BIG TIME POWERS IS GONNA PUSH BACK HARDER. YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT.
YOU TRYING TO SCARE ME?
HAVE YOU SEEN THE WORLD LATELY?
BAD GUYS ARE WINNING EVERY DAY.
WHY NOT US?
IF WE'RE EVER GONNA MAKE SOMETHING OF OURSELVES, WE NEED TO START LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER. IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE'LL EVER HAVE A FUTURE.
AND SO WHAT'RE YOU... THE FEARLESS LEADER?
NAH... I'M JUST A GUY WITH AN OFFER--
A PLACE AT THE TABLE. A CHANCE.
YOU TRIED THIS BEFORE AND FAILED, HOOD. COUNT ME OUT.

YOU WANT YOUR HUSBAND OUT OF PRISON AND *TRULY FREE?*
I CAN MAKE THAT HAPPEN.
WE HAVE THE RESOURCES, BUT THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT THE MONEY.
IT'S ABOUT *POWER.* BEING IN THE BIG LEAGUES. TRUE FREEDOM.
YOU WORK *WITH* US AND I'LL MAKE SURE YOU AND CRUSHER NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MONEY FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIVES.
:SIGH: WHAT'S THE SCORE?
HAHA. SO THAT'S A "YES"?
IT'S AN "ANSWER THE QUESTION."
IF WE'RE AN ARMY... WE NEED *WEAPONS.*
"AND THE MIGHTY GODS OF ASGARD ARE HEAVILY STOCKED."
YOU WANT TO BREAK INTO *ASGARD?*
HM. NOT ALONE...

...OUR NUMBERS ARE MANY, BUT FOR THIS JOB... I'VE PUT TOGETHER A SELECT TEAM.
I BELIEVE YOU KNOW SOME OF OUR MEMBERS...
THUNDERBALL.
THE MAD THINKER.
THE NEW AND IMPROVED ENCHANTRESS.
AND BLACK ANT.
WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.
THERE IS A NEW WORLD ORDER COMING. THIS IS JUST THE FIRST STEP...
...OF THE NEW ILLUMINATI
DO TRY TO GET ALONG...

THE MANHATTAN DETENTION COMPLEX. LATER...
WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW THE RED SKULL ON TRIAL? OR DOOM? OR...WHAT'S HIS NAME WITH THE PURPLE HEAD AND THAT GLOVE?
THOSE GUYS GET TO LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY WHILE US BLUE-COLLAR CRIMINALS PLAY SECOND FIDDLE.
EH, TITANIA DID MOST OF THE DAMAGE TO THE PAWN SHOP. ALL THE BLAME IS GONNA FALL ON HER.
WE'LL BE OUT IN NO TIME.
TOO BAD WE LOST THOSE SWEET PIECES...
THEY SERVED THEIR PURPOSE TODAY.
HEY! YOU DIDN'T SAYING ANYTHING ABOUT NO BROAD WITH SUPER-POWERS!
YOU SAID THIS WOULD BE AN EASY GIG! IN AND OUT AND WE'D BE RICH.
SO I DID.
WELL THEN WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GET US OUTTA HERE!
CERTAINLY.

BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
SORRY, BOYS. BUT TITANIA CAN NEVER KNOW I SET HER UP TO FAIL.
WOULDN'T WANT TO UPSET MY NEW PRISONER.
NEXT ISSUE:
TEAM BUILDING!

YOU WANT TO KNOW
WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT?*

DON'T MISS ILLUMINATI #2

MARVEL
#2
2015
ILLUMINATI
WILLIAMSON
CRYSTAL
RAUCH

HELLO AGAIN!
Glad we didn't scare you off!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

As you saw in our last tale, Titania wishes to walk the straight and narrow, but I made some... VIOLENT MOVES to ensure she joined my all-new, all-different Illuminati.

In the past I would have gone easy when there was something I wanted, but that never worked out, now did it? It's long past time I entered the ranks of the big leagues and I need an army of like-minded individuals to get it done.

I searched the globe for just the right villains for the job...

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YOU'VE GOTTA BE SICK OF THE DAILY GRIND, THUNDERBALL.
THERE IS ZERO FUTURE FOR US IF WE CONTINUE TO DO BUSINESS LIKE THIS, BUT...
SMASH!
BANG BANG BANG
...THE NEW ILLUMINATI IS GONNA CHANGE ALL THAT, BLACK ANT. IF WE WORK TOGETHER.
WE'LL LIVE LIKE KINGS!
WE'LL BE BIGGER THAN DOOM!
PEOPLE WILL WORSHIP THE GROUND WE... YOU...WALK ON, ENCHANTRESS.
THE GOODY TWO-SHOES WILL STOP COMING AFTER US. YOU KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE THEY'LL BE TOO AFRAID.
WE'LL GO DOWN AS LEGENDS.
BAD GUYS WIN EVERY DAY, THINKER...

"...WHY NOT US?"
YEAH, HE GAVE ME THE SAME SPEECH. THAT SONOFA--
THE HOOD'S HIDEOUT.
WE'RE A BUNCH OF SUCKERS, TITANIA.
YOU HERE ALONE? IS THE WRECKING CREW--?
DITCHED 'EM. I NEEDED A CHANGE AND THE HOOD OFFERED IT...SO, Y'KNOW, A GUY'S GOTTA DO WHAT A GUY'S GOTTA DO.
YOU THINK HE'S LEGIT, THUNDERBALL?
THE HOOD? I'LL TRUST HIM AS FAR AS I CAN THROW HIM. AND HE'S LUCKY I CAN THROW HIM A LONG WAY.
YOU BEEN SHACKED UP HERE LONG?
FEW DAYS. IT'S NOT BAD FOR A SAFE HOUSE.
WHERE DID HE GET THIS JOINT?
TO QUOTE THE HOOD, "AIRBNB."
HAHA. SUCH A CON ARTIST.
YOU NOTICE THAT THIS PLACE HAS NO WINDOWS?
AND ALL PASSAGEWAYS LEAD BACK TO THE MAIN ROOM? THERE'S NO EXIT.
JUST THE HOOD'S TELEPORTATION SPELL?
BINGO.
C'MON, LET ME SHOW YOU THE LAB THE MAD THINKER SET UP.
WE SHOULD INTRODUCE YOU TO THE REST OF THE CREW. I KNOW YOU GOT THE HOOD'S AWKWARD INTRO LAST NIGHT, BUT WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING A LITTLE BIT MORE CASUAL.

AH... GREAT.
THE QUANTUM REALITY MEMORY DRIVE KEEPS FAILING...
CURSED A.I. EMOTIONS GET LOST IN COGNITIVE DISTORTIONS. CAN'T HAVE THAT.
MY CALCULATIONS MUST BE CORRECT. FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION...
AH, C'MON, MAN!
WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THIS...
I'VE SEEN MUCH WORSE.
MY GENIUS NEEDS TO BREATHE!
CLOTHING IS A MAN-MADE CREATION THAT I DO NOT NEED. I ONLY HONOR MY OWN CREATIONS. I KEEP TELLING MY LITTLE FRIEND, BUT HE NEVER LISTENS.
"LITTLE FRIEND"? THIS TALKING-TO-HIMSELF LUNATIC IS WORKING WITH US?
HE'S TALKING TO ME.

AND DON'T KNOCK THE MAD THINKER...
...HE MIGHT HAVE A FEW SCREWS LOOSE...
...BUT THE GUY'S GOT A PhD IN CRIME.
WHAT'S YOUR DEAL, BLACK ANT? WORD ON THE STREET WAS THAT YOU--
--WERE THE VICTIM OF A KID WITH A MAGNIFYING GLASS?
THE MAD THINKER FIXED ALL THAT. SORT OF.
THE HOOD HAS PROMISED ME A NEW FLESH-AND-BLOOD BODY, BUT THIS'LL DO FOR NOW.
YOU'RE A--
--LIFE MODEL DECOY, YEAH. FUELED WITH UNSTABLE PYM PARTICLES.
IT LETS ME KEEP MY SIZE POWERS.
THE MAD THINKER HAS BEEN SLOWLY REBUILDING ME. HE EVEN MADE ME THIS NEW STEALTH SUIT...
...ACTUALLY, HE'S BUILT ONE FOR ALL OF YOU.
OH, PERFECT. YOU'RE ALL TOGETHER.
OUR HOST HAS REQUESTED OUR PRESENCE...
...AND I BELIEVE HE SAID SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF... "SUIT UP"?
ESPECIALLY YOU, MAD THINKER.
WE'RE ALL WANTED AT THE TABLE...

"...IN THE HOOD'S MAIN HALL."
ENCHANTRESS SAID YOU CALLED?
PLEASE MAKE THIS *QUICK*, HOOD. I HAVE WORK TO DO.
TAKE A SEAT.
I SEE THAT YOU'VE ALL FOUND THE NEW SUITS I ASKED THE MAD THINKER TO DEVELOP FOR OUR LITTLE MISSION. BUT THE SUITS AREN'T JUST ABOUT OUR FIRST GIG...
...WE ALL NEEDED AN *UPGRADE*. SOMETHING TO SHOW THAT WE'VE ALL *LEVELED UP*. THAT WE'RE *SMARTER* AND--
HOOD, YOU CAN STOP WITH THE GRAND-STANDING AND THE *SALES PITCH*.
I'M HERE.
PLEASE DETAIL THIS MASTER PLAN OF YOURS.
IN AS FEW WORDS AS POSSIBLE.
FINE, I HAD A *SLIDE SHOW* PREPARED, BUT IF YOU CAN'T BE PATIENT...
HERE'S THE PLAN--

"--WE BREAK INTO ASGARDIA.
"STEAL A BUNCH OF WEAPONS.
"SELL THEM OFF TO THE HIGHEST BIDDERS AND CONTINUE TO BUILD THE *ILLUMINATI ARMY.*
"CELEBRATE OUR RICHES AND NEW *A-LIST STATUS!*
CHEERS!
"AND THEN WE GET TO GROW OLD AND SPIN TALL TALES UNTIL THE *END OF TIME.*"
TAUGHT DOCTOR DOOM EVERYTHING HE KNEW. THAT GREEN HOOD IDEA? THAT WAS ALL--

WAIT A MINUTE...
...WE ALL KNOW IT'S NOT GOING TO BE THAT KIND OF CAKEWALK.
I LOVE HOW YOU THINK WE'RE JUST GOING TO WALK INTO ASGARDIA...
...EVEN IF WE GOT ACROSS THAT RAINBOW BRIDGE OF THEIRS...WE'D HAVE TO DEAL WITH A BUNCH OF ANGRY GODS.
CAN YOU TELEPORT US IN?
MY MAGIC ISN'T THAT GOOD, TITANIA...NOT YET.
I CAN'T JUST BOUNCE AROUND THE NINE REALMS.
WHAT ABOUT ENCHANTRESS?
ME?
YEAH, YOU! AREN'T YOU AN ASGARD TOWNIE OR SOMETHING?
I WANT NO PART OF THIS... TEAM.
I'M ONLY HERE BECAUSE...I NEED TO GET INTO ASGARDIA WITHOUT ANGERING ODIN...
ONCE I SHOW YOU TO THE ARMORY... I'M GONE.
MY GOALS ARE THE SAME. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF A TEAM OF MY INFERIORS.
YOU ARE BUT A RESOURCE TO ACCESS THE ASGARD SCIENCE, HOOD. THEN I CAN CRACK IT OPEN, SEE HOW IT WORKS, MAKE IT MY OWN. SO THAT I CAN--
HOLD ON. EVERYONE SLOW YOUR ROLL, OKAY?
THERE HAVE BEEN WHISPERS THAT A HOT-SHOT SCIENTIST NAMED DOCTOR KARVER HAS BEEN DEVELOPING AN ARTIFICIAL BIFRÖST BRIDGE.
WE'RE GOING TO ASK HIM IF WE CAN TAKE IT FOR A LITTLE TEST DRIVE.
OKAY, OKAY, SAY WE ALL AGREE TO TRUST YOU? WHERE CAN WE FIND THIS GUY?
IT'S NOT ALL THAT DIFFICULT. DOCTOR KARVER THINKS HE'S SOME KIND OF ROCK STAR NOW SO HE'LL BE HANGING OUT AT THE...

...CLUB FENRIS!

THERE HASN'T BEEN A HANGOUT FULL OF THIS MUCH DEBAUCHERY SINCE HAWKEYE'S APARTMENT!

TITANIA, THUNDERBALL, WATCH THE ROOM AND SPREAD THE GOOD WORD ABOUT OUR NEW ILLUMINATI.

ENCHANTRESS, YOU'RE WITH ME.

NO.

I MEAN... JUST FOLLOW ME.

WELL NOW, IF IT ISN'T MY FAVORITE CREEPY BROTHER AND SISTER DUO, ***ANDREA AND ANDREAS VON STRUCKER***...

THOUGHT YOU TWO HAD GONE TO THE GREAT ***BIG HELL*** IN THE SKY?

FATHER TOOK CARE OF THAT. I SEE YOU BROUGHT SOME... FRIENDS.

HOOD, YOU ARE AWARE OF ***CLUB POLICY.***

WE HAVE ***ONE RULE*** HERE.

THAT RULE IS BROKEN...

...YOU PAY.

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH. DON'T WORRY, WE'LL ***BEHAVE.***

YOU CAN ***TRUST*** ME.

YO, MAN, WE NEED TO TALK.

HM.

HEY NOW... LOOK WHO IT IS...

...PASTE-POT PETE!
'SUP, GIRL? HAS IT BEEN SO LONG YOU FORGET IT'S BEEN TRAPSTER FOR YEARS NOW?
LOOK AT YOU, TITANIA, DRESSED ALL BIG-LEAGUE TRENDY. YOU RUNNING WITH THE HOOD NOW?
SORT OF...
HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU WITH CAGE AND FIST... BROKE YOUR PAROLE... KNOCKING OFF SOME PAWN SHOP? THAT RIGHT?
NO, I WASN'T... NEVER MIND.
YEAH, WELL... AH...
...HEY, SO I HEARD A RUMOR ABOUT YOUR BOY ABSORBING MAN... SOMETHING'S GOING DOWN. SOMETHING BAD.
TELL ME!
NOT HERE. FINISH YOUR DRINK AND THEN GO OUT THE BACK DOOR AND MEET ME IN THE SIDE TUNNEL...
BAD GUYS WIN EVERY DAY...
WHY NOT US, Y'KNOW?
WHERE IS THIS GUY...?
ENCHANTRESSS... DID I EVER TELL YOU GREEN WAS MY FAVORITE COLOR?
DON'T.
LOOK...

...THERE'S OUR MAN. HOT-SHOT DOCTOR KARVER. TIME TO GET TO WORK.
THIS TOOK WAY TOO LONG. MY HANDS BETTER NOT BE EMPTY THE REST OF THE NIGHT.
SWIPE
EXCUSE ME!
DON'T WORRY. ALL YOUR DRINKS ARE ON US TONIGHT, DOC.
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE THE BEST NIGHT OF YOUR LIFE.
MEANWHILE IN THE SIDE ALLEY...
PETE?
YOU BETTER NOT BE SERIOUSLY--

--AH!
SPLORCH!
WHAT THE HELL, PETE?!
SORRY, GIRL...TIMES ARE TOUGH AND MY TECH IS PRICEY.
GIMME EVERYTHING YOU GOT.
WHAT? YOU'RE ACTUALLY STICKING ME UP? ME?
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING.

THAT'S A LOAD OF BULL. YOU'RE HANGING WITH THE HOOD? YOU GOT MONEY. AND I NEED MONEY.
SO HAND IT OVER OR I'M DROPPING YOU OFF AT THE FEDS.
YOU'RE A WANTED FUGITIVE. MAYBE I CAN TALK THEM INTO SOME KIND OF FINDER'S FEE. NOT SURE IF THEY WANT YOU DEAD OR ALIVE.
SO YOU WERE LYING ABOUT ABSORBING MAN?
YOU REALLY THINK THIS GOOP IS GONNA STOP ME?
NAH, BUT THIS MIGHT.
REPULSOR GUN.
FZZZZTT
IT'S STILL A BIT EXPERIMENTAL, BUT I IMAGINE IT'LL BE JUST LIKE A BLAST FROM IRON MAN RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES.
YOU NEED MONEY BUT YOU WERE ABLE TO BUY BOOSTED STARK TECH?!
WORTH IT.
KRAK
GRRR...
KRAK
KRAK
NO YA DON'T... YOU'RE TOAST, TITANIA!

PETE... YOU BETTER RUN.
FSSSSSS
ME.
STUPID... GOTTA LET THE HOOD KNOW THIS PLACE AIN'T SAFE...

AND THEN MY BUDDY JUST DROVE OFF. LEFT ME THERE STANDING WITH THE JEWELS WEARING NOTHING BUT MY CLOAK!
HA! VERY FUNNY, BUT...
...YOU CAN STOP TRYING TO WINE AND DINE ME, MISTER HOOD. IT TAKES A LOT MORE THAN A NICE SUIT AND A FEW DRINKS TO IMPRESS ME. THE PRETTY BLONDE IS A LOVELY TOUCH, BUT... PLEASE.
YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
OH, I KNOW EVERYTHING I COULD EVER WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOU. THE STORIES ABOUT HOW YOU LET YOUR GREED OVERCOME YOUR COMMON SENSE ARE LEGENDARY.
YOU'RE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO ALWAYS WANTS. WANTS WANTS WANTS...
SPIT OUT WHAT YOU WANT AND LEAVE ME.
YOU'RE WORKING WITH ROXXON ON AN ARTIFICIAL BIFRÖST...
WHAT WOULD IT COST FOR YOU TO TELL ME WHERE THAT IS AND TO...AH...LOOK THE OTHER WAY FOR AN EVENING?
OH, IS THAT ALLLLL?
THERE IS NOTHING A CRIMINAL LIKE YOU COULD OFFER ME THAT WOULD COMPEL ME TO GIVE UP MY LIFE'S WORK--
--HM.
UGH...YOU MUST EXCUSE ME. I'M FEELING A BIT ILL.
I CAN HELP WITH THAT.
WHAT? DID YOU... POISON ME?
NOT QUITE. WHAT YOU'RE FEELING...

"...IS MY ASSOCIATE THE BLACK ANT GROWING INSIDE OF YOU.
"AND HE'S GONNA GET BIGGER AND BIGGER WITH EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE.
"UNTIL YOU GO..."
...SPLAT.
OR...YOU COULD JUST TELL ME ABOUT YOUR PRECIOUS BIÖFROST RAINBOW BRIDGE AND YOUR "LIFE'S WORK".
WHAT? ÷UGH÷ DAMN...YOU BASTARD.
FINE, THE RAINBOW BRIDGE IS IN THE TOP LAB OF THE ROXXON BUILDING UP NORTH.
MY PASSCODE IS... "RAGNAROK."
THANK YOU. NOW WAS THAT SO HARD?
BLACK ANT...PLEASE EVACUATE OUR FRIEND HERE...
BLACK ANT?

UGH... MY GOD... GET HIM...
...OUT!
BLACK ANT! GET OUT NOW!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU...?
IT IS TOO LATE, HOOD.
ARRGH--

I ALWAYS *WANTED* TO TRY THAT.

DAMMIT, BLACK ANT! YOU MANIAC!

THAT WAS *COMPLETELY* UNNECESSARY!

WHAT'RE YOU UPSET ABOUT? YOU GOT THE *INFO,* YEAH?

I HATE WHEN I GET BLOOD IN MY HAIR.

DO YOU HAVE ANY *IDEA* WHAT YOU JUST DID? THIS CLUB HAS ONE RULE--

LISTEN... I JUST DID US A *FAVOR!* NOW NO ONE ELSE KNOWS WHAT WE WERE TALKING TO HIM ABOUT. JUST CLEANING UP THE TRAIL A BIT EARLY, THAT'S ALL...

HOOD!

WE NEED TO ROLL OUT. THIS PLACE IS--

WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO YOU?

BLACK ANT BROKE THE *ONE* CLUB RULE!

YES, HE DID, HOOD...

...NO KILLING.

AND YOU KNOW THE PUNISHMENT--

--TEN MILLION DOLLARS TO ANYONE WHO KILLS THE HOOD AND HIS CREW.
NEXT ISSUE:
BATTLE ROYALE!

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

DON'T MISS ILLUMINATI #3

MARVEL
ILLUMINATI
#3
2016
WILLIAMSON
CRYSTAL
RAUCH

HELLO AGAIN!
Glad we didn't scare you off!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

So I have this big plan, right? I get together a new crew to steal weapons from Asgardia to fund our new Illuminati.

We were going to just walk into Club Fenris and ask this Roxxon scientist a few questions about an artificial bridge to Asgardia he's been working on...no harm, no foul. It should have been easy.

But the Black Ant had to go and kill the scientist. And there is only one rule at the Fenris Club. No killing. If you break that rule, you pay with your life. Now there is a bounty on our heads and our so-called peers are coming to collect...

# ILLUMINATI


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CLUB FENRIS.
EXCLUSIVE CLUB FOR VILLAINS IN NEW YORK CITY OWNED BY ANDREAS AND ANDREA VON STRUCKER.

TELEPORT US THE HELL OUTTA HERE, HOOD!

DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY, THUNDERBALL!

IF I TRIED THAT, I'D JUST TELEPORT *EVERYONE* WITH US!

AND THAT REALLY WOULDN'T BE *CONSTRUCTIVE!*

BLAM BLAM

WE'RE DOUBLING THE OFFER!
TWO MILLION FOR EACH HEAD YOU BRING US OF THE HOOD'S CREW.
WHOEVER KILLS THE HOOD IN PARTICULAR WILL BE GREATLY REWARDED BY THE VON STRUCKER FAMILY!
DAMMIT!
THEY'RE BLOCKING THE EXITS!
YOU LED US INTO A DEATH TRAP, HOOD!
KRAK!
OH, PLEASE, TITANIA.
WE'RE THE ILLUMINATI. THIS BUNCH OF LOSERS HARDLY STANDS A CHANCE AGAINST US.
BLAM BLAM BLAM
THUNDERBALL! LET'S MAKE AN EXIT! RUN AT ME!
WHAT?
SAW THE MUTANTS PULL A STUNT LIKE THIS ONCE.
DO IT!
BRACE YOURSELF.

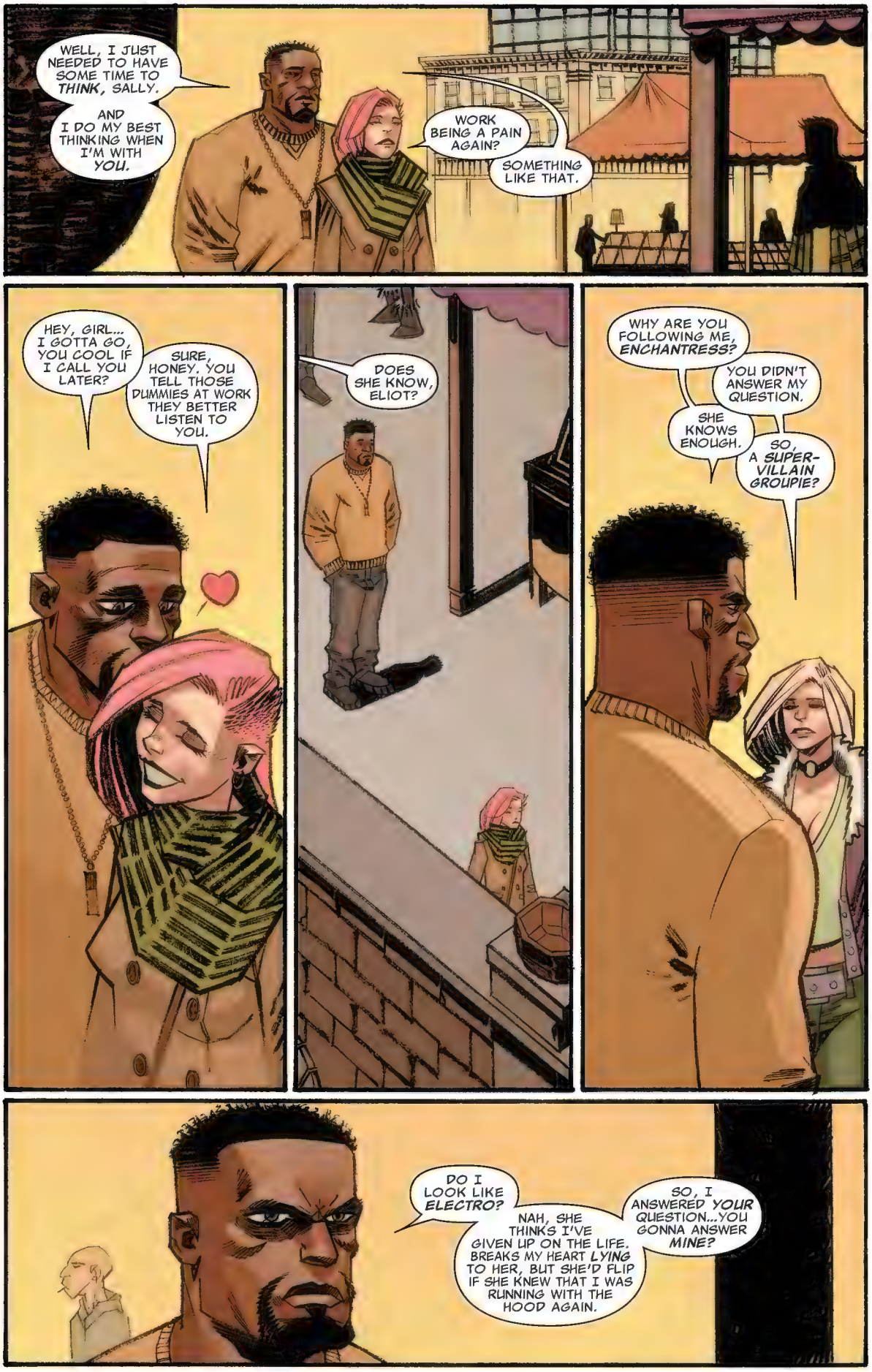
BOOM
IF I BRING THIS PLACE DOWN WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO...
...ESCAPE!
ENCHANTRESS, YOU MIND--?
I SUPPOSE I HAVE ENOUGH POWER LEFT TO FLY US UP.
HOLD ON!
YOU'RE LUCKY WE'RE NOT LEAVING YOU TO DIE AFTER YOU MADE OUR ROXXON CONTACT GO SPLAT, BLACK ANT!

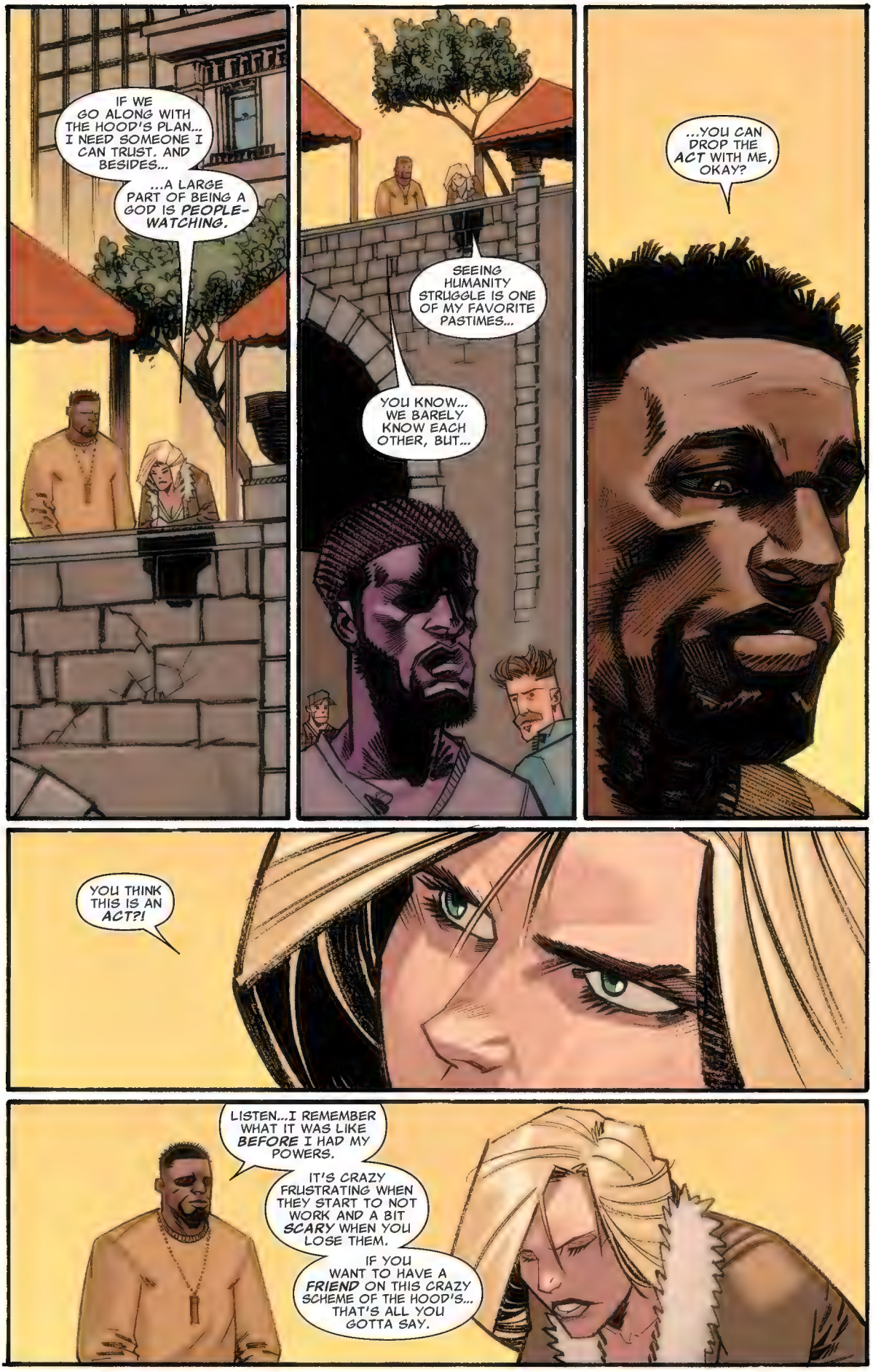
YOU REALLY GONNA SELL US OUT LIKE THIS, GREY GARGOYLE?
DAMN STRAIGHT!
THE FENRIS TWINS WILL PROBABLY RAISE THE REWARD SINCE YOU'VE DESTROYED THEIR CLUB!
YOU FOOLS!
NOW THAT WE'RE IN THE STREETS, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE AVENGERS TAKE NOTICE!
MAYBE IF YOU HELP US, THE TWINS WILL GO EASY ON YOU, THUNDERBALL. MAYBE EVEN GIVE YOU A CUT OF THE MONEY.
SORRY, TOMBSTONE. I GOTTA STICK WITH THE NEW CREW!
KRAK!
YOU GOT A PLAN B, HOOD?!
EVERYONE HOLD HANDS AND SING "KUMBAYA" BECAUSE...
CAMP IS OVER!
AH, DAMN! WHEN DID THE HOOD GET THAT TRICK?!
BOOM

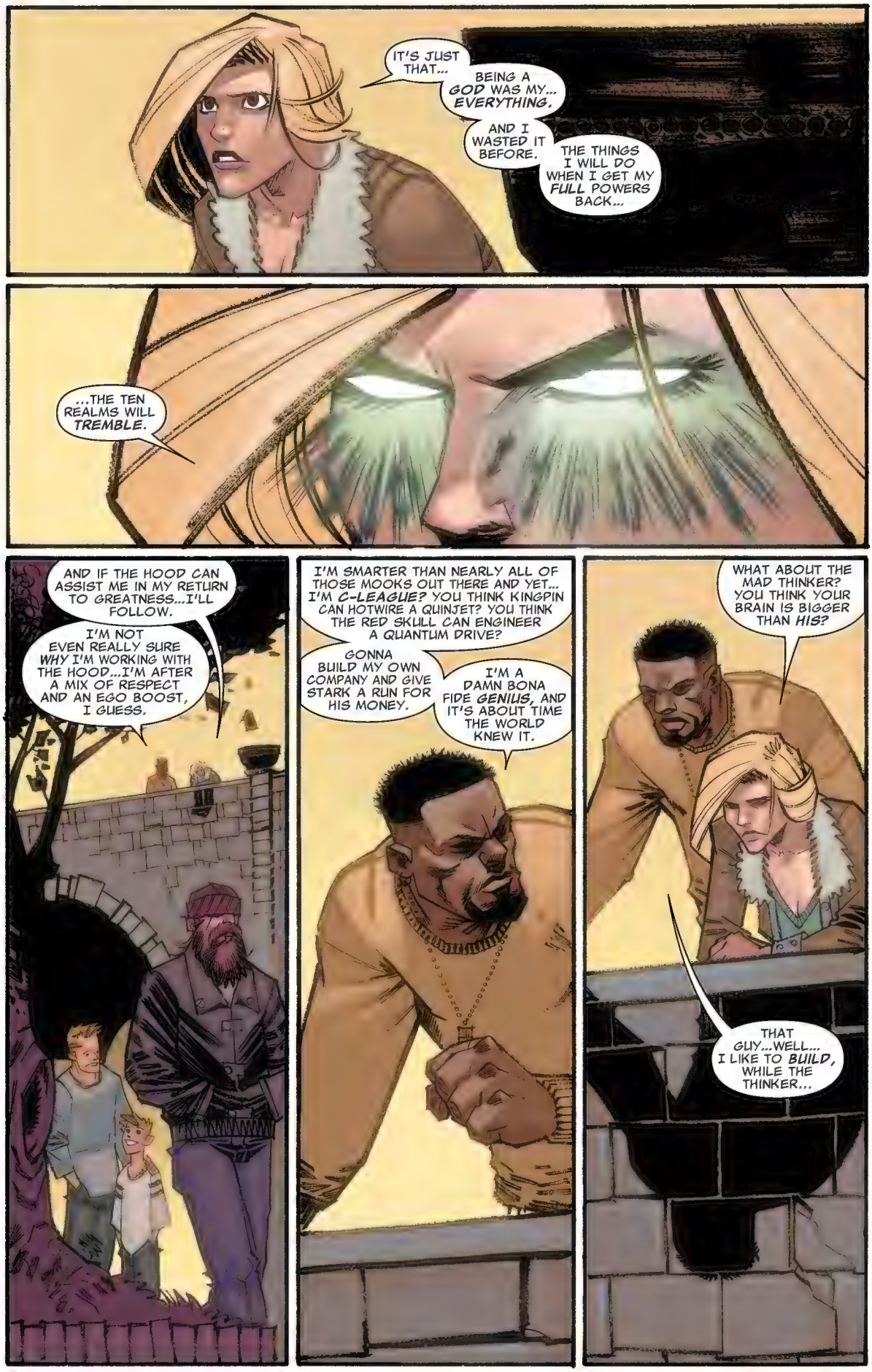
POOF!
WHERE THE HELL ARE WE?
UPSTATE NEW YORK...THE FENRIS TWINS WON'T BE ABLE TO TRACK MY MAGIC THIS FAR AWAY.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW DISAPPOINTED I AM THAT WE JUST RAN FROM A FIGHT.
THE ENCHANTRESS NEVER RUNS FROM A FIGHT.
THIS IS SO... EMBARRASSING.
HAD A LOT OF BUDDIES IN THAT PLACE. BRINGING THE JOINT DOWN AROUND THEIR HEADS IS GOING TO COST US BIG TIME.
I'M BETTING THE FENRIS TWINS HAVE BIGGER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT NOW THAN US.
BUT DAMN... I HAVE TO ADMIT...I CAN'T BLAME THEM. TWO MIL FOR OUR HEADS? EACH? I WOULD'VE TAKEN THAT DEAL, TOO.
WHAT'RE YOU TWO WHINING ABOUT?
THAT WAS A BLAST!
JUST SHOWING ALL THE D-LISTERS WHO THE NEW BIG DOGS IN TOWN ARE.
THE PLAN WAS TO SCARE THE SCIENTIST INTO GIVING US THE LOCATION OF THE ARTIFICIAL BIFROST...NOT KILL HIM, BLACK ANT! YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST DONE WHAT I SAID!
I CAN'T HAVE PEOPLE NOT FOLLOWING MY ORDERS.
KLK

BANG
HOOD!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
THE MAD THINKER WOULD HAVE JUST BUILT HIM A NEW BODY ANYWAY!
IF YOU EVER TRY A STUNT LIKE THAT ON ONE OF US AGAIN, I WILL--
YOU'LL WHAT, TITANIA?!
OKAY, OKAY, OKAY. I THINK WE'VE HAD ENOUGH FIGHTING TONIGHT.
YOU'RE RIGHT. WE STILL GOT WHAT WE WANTED BACK THERE. REGARDLESS OF THE BLACK ANT'S... INDISCRETION.
HEY, DON'T THINK YOU'RE OFF THE HOOK, HOOD!
HOW IS THIS ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE WRECKING CREW?
ALL I'M SEEING ARE THE SAME DAMN MISTAKES!
YOU TOLD ME YOU HAD A LOCK ON THIS NEW ILLUMINATI, HOOD!
HOW AM I EVER GOING TO BE MORE POWERFUL THAN--I MEAN...GET MY FULL POWERS BACK-- IF YOU CAN'T EVEN CONTROL YOUR OWN PEOPLE?!
SO THAT'S IT THEN?
YOU ALL WANT TO QUIT ON ME?

FINE, BUT SEE THAT? THAT'S ROXXON, OUR SCENE OF THE CRIME.
I WANTED TO GIVE US MORE TIME TO PLAN, BUT THE BLACK ANT FORCED MY HAND.
IT'LL ONLY TAKE A HOT MINUTE FOR ROXXON TO NOTICE THE HEAD SCIENTIST THAT WAS DEVELOPING THE ARTIFICIAL BIFROST BRIDGE TO ASGARDIA IS DEAD. THEY'RE GOING TO BE ON HIGH ALERT NOW.
BUT OUR BEST SHOT OF GAINING ACCESS TO THE ASGARDIAN WEAPON STRONG-HOLD IS HERE. SO...
...IF WE'RE GONNA STRIKE, WE'LL NEED TO STRIKE TONIGHT. NO LOOKING BACK.
IF YOU'RE IN? MEET ME BACK HERE AT MIDNIGHT.
IF YOU'RE OUT?
HAVE FUN IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT LINE.
MANHATTAN. LATER.
I'M GLAD YOU WERE ABLE TO TAKE A LONG LUNCH TODAY, ELIOT.


WELL, I JUST NEEDED TO HAVE SOME TIME TO THINK, SALLY.
AND I DO MY BEST THINKING WHEN I'M WITH YOU.
WORK BEING A PAIN AGAIN?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
HEY, GIRL... I GOTTA GO, YOU COOL IF I CALL YOU LATER?
SURE, HONEY. YOU TELL THOSE DUMMIES AT WORK THEY BETTER LISTEN TO YOU.
DOES SHE KNOW, ELIOT?
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME, ENCHANTRESS?
YOU DIDN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION.
SHE KNOWS ENOUGH.
SO, A SUPER-VILLAIN GROUPIE?
DO I LOOK LIKE ELECTRO?
NAH, SHE THINKS I'VE GIVEN UP ON THE LIFE. BREAKS MY HEART LYING TO HER, BUT SHE'D FLIP IF SHE KNEW THAT I WAS RUNNING WITH THE HOOD AGAIN.
SO, I ANSWERED YOUR QUESTION...YOU GONNA ANSWER MINE?


IF WE GO ALONG WITH THE HOOD'S PLAN... I NEED SOMEONE I CAN TRUST. AND BESIDES...
...A LARGE PART OF BEING A GOD IS *PEOPLE-WATCHING.*
SEEING HUMANITY STRUGGLE IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PASTIMES...
YOU KNOW... WE BARELY KNOW EACH OTHER, BUT...
...YOU CAN DROP THE *ACT* WITH ME, OKAY?
YOU THINK THIS IS AN *ACT*?!
LISTEN...I REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS LIKE *BEFORE* I HAD MY POWERS.
IT'S CRAZY FRUSTRATING WHEN THEY START TO NOT WORK AND A BIT *SCARY* WHEN YOU LOSE THEM.
IF YOU WANT TO HAVE A *FRIEND* ON THIS CRAZY SCHEME OF THE HOOD'S... THAT'S ALL YOU GOTTA SAY.


IT'S JUST THAT...
BEING A GOD WAS MY... EVERYTHING.
AND I WASTED IT BEFORE.
THE THINGS I WILL DO WHEN I GET MY FULL POWERS BACK...
...THE TEN REALMS WILL TREMBLE.
AND IF THE HOOD CAN ASSIST ME IN MY RETURN TO GREATNESS...I'LL FOLLOW.
I'M NOT EVEN REALLY SURE WHY I'M WORKING WITH THE HOOD...I'M AFTER A MIX OF RESPECT AND AN EGO BOOST, I GUESS.
I'M SMARTER THAN NEARLY ALL OF THOSE MOOKS OUT THERE AND YET... I'M C-LEAGUE? YOU THINK KINGPIN CAN HOTWIRE A QUINJET? YOU THINK THE RED SKULL CAN ENGINEER A QUANTUM DRIVE?
GONNA BUILD MY OWN COMPANY AND GIVE STARK A RUN FOR HIS MONEY.
I'M A DAMN BONA FIDE GENIUS, AND IT'S ABOUT TIME THE WORLD KNEW IT.
WHAT ABOUT THE MAD THINKER? YOU THINK YOUR BRAIN IS BIGGER THAN HIS?
THAT GUY...WELL... I LIKE TO BUILD, WHILE THE THINKER...

"...HE GETS OFF ON BREAKING THINGS DOWN."
MAD THINKER'S LAB.
ALL OF THESE IDEAS ARE...
...INFERIOR!
MY MOTIVATION... IS GONE.
GONE, GONE, GONE, GONE, GONE...
...THE HOOD... HE MADE PROMISES.
THAT HE'D GIVE ME SOMETHING NEW TO PLAY WITH. A NEW...
...CHALLENGE.

BROOKLYN...
WHAT DO YOU WANT THIS TIME?
TATTOO
TATTOO
HOW ABOUT... SOMETHING CUTE...LIKE A CAT IN A TOP HAT?
YOU SURE?
LUCK
THEY SAY YOU'VE ONLY GOT ONE BODY... BUT THIS IS MY THIRD OR FOURTH...I'VE LOST TRACK.
AND SOMEONE GUARANTEED ME THAT I'D GET A NEW FLESH AND BLOOD MODEL SOON. SO I DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS DOING AS MUCH DAMAGE TO THIS ONE AS POSSIBLE.
AND BESIDES...THE PAIN MAKES ME FEEL ALIVE.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, BUDDY.
BBBBZZZZZ
LUCK

MEANWHILE...
I CAN HEAR YOU, Y'KNOW.
CAN WE TALK?
SURE, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN LECTURED.
OH, LOVELY. SARCASM.
YOU WANT TO TALK? TALK.
BEFORE IRON FIST AND CAGE TRIED TO BUST YOU AT THAT PAWN SHOP, YOU WERE THINKING OF CALLING IT QUITS...
WHAT WAS MOTIVATING YOU TO THROW IN THE TOWEL ON THE LIFE?
I'M SICK OF GETTING POPPED FOR SOMETHING THAT ONLY PAYS THE RENT FOR A MONTH. THE RISK...
IT'D BE NICE IF ABSORBING MAN AND I WEREN'T ON EDGE TWENTY-FOUR-SEVEN. MAYBE EVEN TRY FOR SOME KIND OF NORMAL LIFE AS HUSBAND AND WIFE.
BUT THAT'S NEVER GOING TO HAPPEN--

I GOT A KID.
WAY TO MAKE THIS ABOUT YOU, HOOD.
JUST TRYING TO RELATE, OKAY?
THE MOM WANTS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, BUT I'LL BE DAMNED IF THAT KID IS GOING TO HAVE EVEN CLOSE TO THE LIFE I'VE HAD. EVEN IF THAT MEANS DYING IN A BLAZE OF FIRE...IT'LL BE WORTH IT.
TEQUILA
BUT YOU SEE, I LIKE BEING THE BAD GUY NOW.
THE REALITY IS...I'M NOT THE HERO OF MY STORY AND I'M TOTALLY OKAY WITH THAT.
SOMETIME BACK I WAS OFFERED A WAY OUT...BUT I DECIDED TO STOP LYING TO MYSELF AND...
...IF I'M GOING TO BE A VILLAIN...I'M GOING TO BE THE BEST.
SO THEN WHY DID YOU PICK ME, HUH?
WHAT ABOUT ME SCREAMED "BEST OF THE BEST" TO YOU?
WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME IF I SAID I THINK YOU HAVE POTENTIAL?
I KNOW YOU. YOU'RE ALWAYS UP TO SOMETHING.
LISTEN, I KNOW I TALK A LOT, SO INSTEAD I'M GOING TO TAKE A WALK. BUT ONE LAST THING...

...EVEN IF WE QUIT... WE'LL ALWAYS LIVE IN FEAR.
ALWAYS WAITING FOR THE COPS TO COME BUSTING INTO OUR HOMES AND TAKE US DOWN.
BUT I'D RATHER THEY BREAK DOWN THE DOORS TO A MANSION THAN MY CRAPPY APARTMENT, KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING?
NOT REALLY.
MY POINT IS... WE CAN NEVER HAVE NORMAL LIVES AGAIN... BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE CAN'T HAVE GOOD ONES.
THINK ABOUT IT.

ROXXON.
MIDNIGHT.
HM.
GOING SOLO AGAIN.
WHATEVER...
DIDN'T NEED THEM ANYWAY...
LOOK AT THIS SAD SUCKER RIGHT HERE.

YOU REALLY THINK WE'D LET YOU BREAK INTO A HIGH-SECURITY BUILDING AND STEAL FROM ANGRY DRUNK GODS ALONE?
THIS WHOLE PLAN IS GOING TO FALL APART IF I DON'T JOIN YOU ANYWAY.
THE ASGARD SCIENCE IS ALL THAT I DESIRE, HOOD.
I'M STILL IN IF YOU'LL HAVE ME. GOT NOTHING BETTER TO DO.
TRY TO NOT PUT US ALL IN DANGER THIS TIME, BLACK ANT.
WAS HOPING TITANIA WOULD JOIN US, BUT...
BUT WHAT?

YOU KNOW IF YOU DON'T HAVE MY MUSCLE YOU'LL GET RIPPED APART THE MOMENT YOU STEP INTO ASGARDIA.
BUT THIS IS FOR ME AND MY FUTURE. NO ONE ELSE. WE CLEAR?
BUT OF COURSE...
HOPEFULLY IT DOESN'T COME TO THAT. THE PEOPLE OF ASGARDIA WILL NEVER KNOW WE WERE THERE.
LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!
POOF!
POOF!
ROXXON'S SECURITY IS GOING TO PICK US UP NO MATTER WHAT.
WE'LL NEED A DISTRACTION.
WHAT IS THIS I SEE?

A BAND OF MERRY THIEVES STORMING THE VILLAINOUS ROXXON?
MY INSTINCTS HAVE ME BELIEVE YOU'RE NOT HERE OF NOBLE INTENTIONS.
NEXT ISSUE:
THOR VS. TITANIA ROUND TWO!
OH, NO...

# YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT?*

**CLASH OF THE TITANIA! (AND THOR)**

ILLUMINATI **#4**

MARVEL
#4
2015
ILUMINATI
WILLIAMSON
CRYSTAL
RAUCH

HELLO AGAIN!
Glad we didn't scare you off!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

You might not believe me, but I see my new Illuminati as family. It's a dysfunctional family that fights, but isn't that true of all families?

After the incident at Club Fenris, our little family needed a time-out to consider our lot in this life of crime we lead. But we still came together for our big heist of Asgardia's weapons vault. All we needed to do is break into Roxxon and use their artificial bridge. Now that the gang is back together this should have been easy peasy, right?

But of course a hero in a cape showed up! They always do. But this is the new Thor. She doesn't have quite the same experience as the last blond to wield the hammer, so maybe we can put one over on her and get what we came for...

# ILLUMINATI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TOP OF THE ROXXON SCIENCE TOWER.
WE MEET AGAIN, LADY TITANIA.
THIS ISN'T GOING TO GO DOWN THE SAME AS LAST TIME, LADY THOR.*
*CHECK OUT THOR #5! --K.K.
I LET YOU WIN, REMEMBER?
IT'S JUST THOR.
AND IF YOU HAVE TO TELL YOURSELF THAT TO SLEEP AT NIGHT, THEN FINE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DON'T YOU HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO, LIKE FIGHT YOUR FAMILY?

ROXXON HAS BEEN A THORN IN MY SIDE FROM THE MOMENT I PICKED UP THIS HAMMER.
I'VE MADE IT MY BUSINESS TO KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE ON ALL OF ROXXON'S FACILITIES AND LABS.
WORD REACHED ME THAT YOU WERE TRYING TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF, TITANIA...
SHE IS!
WE ALL ARE. WE'RE HEROES NOW. NO MORE VILLAINY SHENANIGANS FOR US. NO, MA'AM!
WE'RE THE NEW... WE'RE THE NEW...
...DEFENDERS!
GO ON.
WE'RE HERE TO DESTROY THIS EVIL ROXXON LAB!
WE HEARD THAT ROXXON WAS CONDUCTING A DANGEROUS EXPERIMENT AND DECIDED WE'D BE THE ONES TO TAKE THEM DOWN. AS A SIGN OF GOOD FAITH!
DO YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE YOU, HOOD? I CAN SEE YOUR SPLIT TONGUE FROM HERE.
YES! LISTEN, WE CAN TAKE ROXXON DOWN TOGETHER!
INTRUDERS!

CAN'T LET THEM BREACH THE LAB...
...TAKE 'EM OUT!
DAMMIT, HOOD!
YOU SAID ROXXON *WOULDN'T* KNOW WE WERE COMING!
I THINK YOUR ASGARDIAN BUDDY SHOWING UP MIGHT HAVE TIPPED THEM OFF!
HEY, THOR! WOULD YOU STILL BE OPEN TO A *TEAM-UP*?!
BANG
BANG
I'LL MERELY REMOVE YOU ALL FROM BATTLE AND THEN SORT OUT THIS *MADNESS.*
GRAB
SORRY, THOR.
BUT I CAN'T LET YOU...

...DO THAT!

WHOA.

DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO GRAB HER *HAMMER*, TITANIA! IT'S A WASTE OF TIME!

*YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT BY NOW, ENCHANTRESS?!*

NOT THE FIRST TIME I'VE GONE ONE-ON-ONE WITH *THE WORTHY.*

THE ENTRANCE IS BLOCKED. WE NEED A WAY INTO THAT LAB!

*ALLOW ME!*

KER-
RASH!
THINKER! THUNDERBALL! BLACK ANT! WE NEED TO GET ROXXON'S ARTIFICIAL RAINBOW BRIDGE TO ASGARDIA WORKING OR WE WON'T BE ABLE TO BREAK IN! FIND IT!
ENCHANTRESS AND I CAN STRESS THE ROXXON GUARDS.
TITANIA, CAN YOU...?
DO WHATEVER YOU GOTTA DO, HOOD!
I'VE GOT THOR UNDER MY THUMB!
TITANIA!

THERE! THE ARTIFICIAL BIFROST IS OURS!
MAYBE WORKING WITH YOU TRASH WILL PAY OFF AFTER ALL.
:OOF:
KRAK!
THIS SHOULD ACTIVATE THE DEVICE, THUNDERBALL.
WAIT...THIS IS INCOMPETENT WORKMANSHIP. THE CONTROL PANEL IS HARDLY FINISHED! HOW ARE WE GOING TO USE IT IF WE CAN'T EVEN TURN IT ON?
THE BRIDGE ISN'T OPERATIONAL, HOOD!
KRAK
ZAP!
FIX IT, GENIUS!

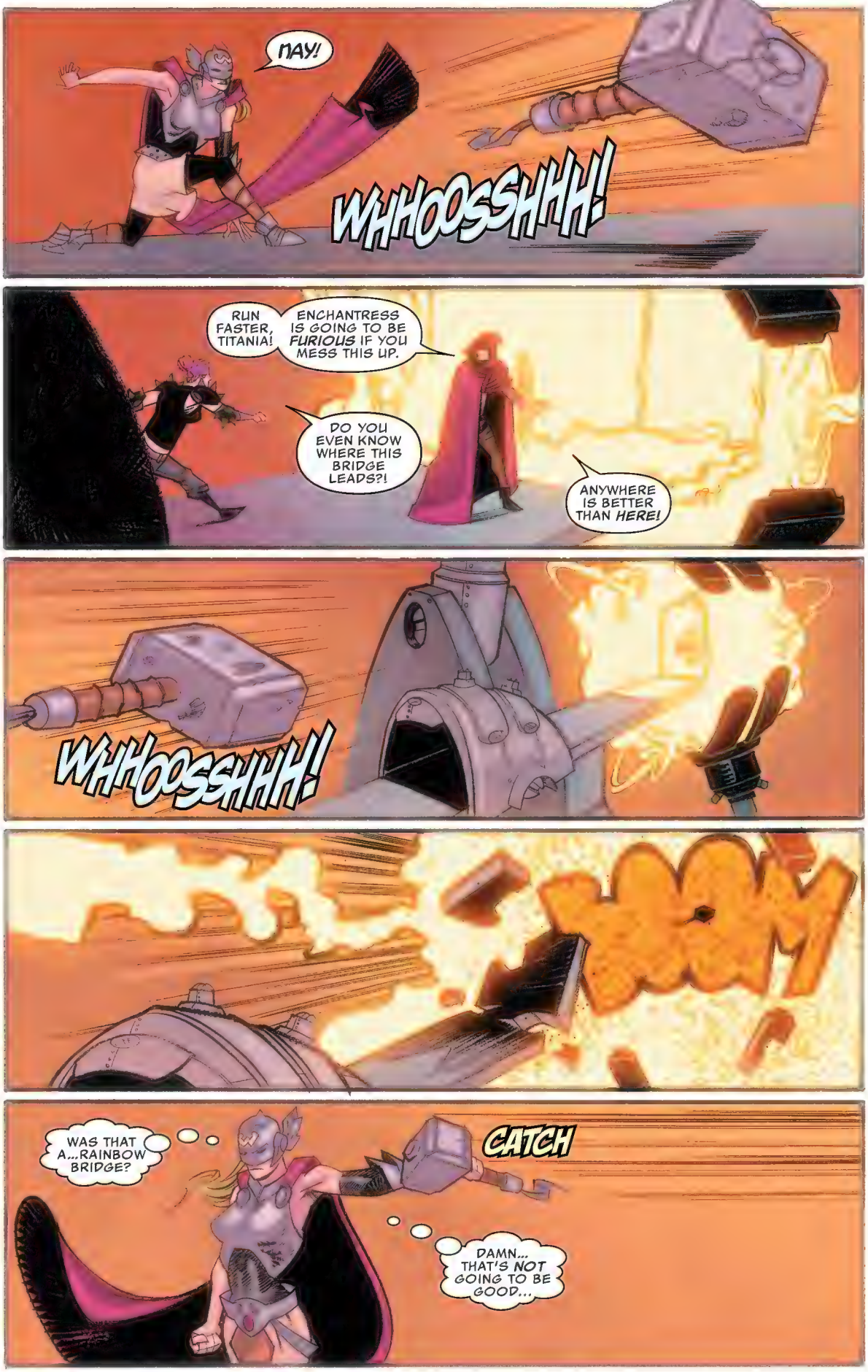
THAT ALL YOU GOT, THOR?!
FINALLY...
IT'S ALL GEARED UP BUT I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT TO FINISH THE CONTROL PANEL, MAD THINKER!
IT'S A GOOD THING MY GENIUS INTELLECT REMEMBERED TO BRING MY TOOL FOR TIGHT SPACES.
BLACK ANT! SHRINK DOWN TO TWO CENTIMETERS!
WE NEED YOU TO FIND THE CONTROL PANEL'S INNER WORKINGS! THIS SHOULD BE A SIMPLE TASK EVEN FOR YOU!
GOOD. I WAS GETTING BORED.

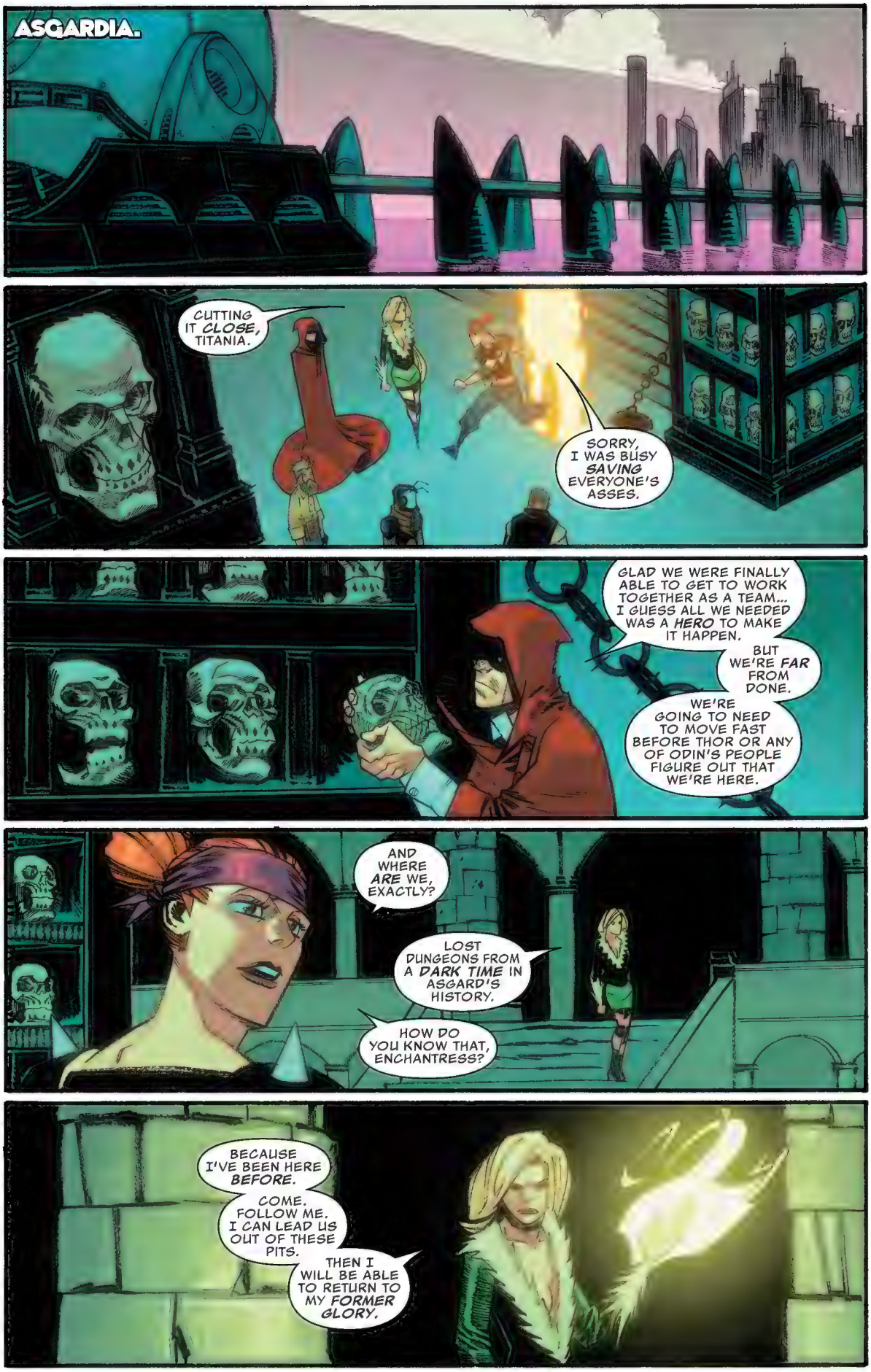
WHAT WOULD THIS GROUP DO WITHOUT ME?
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO THIS, TITANIA.
YOU CAN AID ME IN FINISHING THIS BATTLE BEFORE IT GOES TOO FAR.
YOU GUYS GOING TO HAVE THAT BRIDGE WORKING ANYTIME SOON?!
WHAT AM I EVEN LOOKING FOR HERE?
AM I GONNA GET FRIED OR--
JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD, YOU LITTLE INSECT!
THERE ARE TWO DISCONNECTED WIRES YOU NEED TO FIND!
CONNECT THEM NOW!
THANKS FOR THE OFFER, THOR. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? IT WASN'T UNTIL I SAW YOU AGAIN THAT I WAS REMINDED WHAT MY FAVORITE PART OF THIS GIG WAS...
...BEATING UP SUPER HEROES!
ALMOST GOT IT--

KRAKA-
THOOOSSSHH!
THEY'VE ACTIVATED THE BRIDGE!
KILL THEM ALL!
TITANIA!
SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR PLAYMATE! IT'S TIME FOR YOUR HOMEWORK!

BANG
BANG BANG
BANG
I'LL BE THERE AS SOON AS ROXXON STOPS SHOOTING AT US!
I HAVE GROWN TIRED OF YOUR ASSAULTS, ROXXON.
FEEL THE WRATH OF THE MIGHTY MJOLNIR!
WHOOSH!
KRAK!
WHOOSH!
KRAK!
WHOOSH!
KRAK!
SCATCH!
NOW...
...LET US SPEAK AS HONORABLE WARRIORS, TITANIA.

KRAK
=GLUKK=
YOU WOULD ATTACK FROM BEHIND...?
GUESS I'M ONE OF THE BAD GUYS AFTER ALL.
THANKS FOR THE TUSSLE.
WE'LL HAVE TO SAVE THE TIEBREAKER FOR ANOTHER TIME.


NAY!
WHHOOSSHHH!
RUN FASTER, TITANIA!
ENCHANTRESS IS GOING TO BE *FURIOUS* IF YOU MESS THIS UP.
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHERE THIS BRIDGE LEADS?!
ANYWHERE IS BETTER THAN *HERE!*
WHHOOSSHHH!
WOW
WAS THAT A...RAINBOW BRIDGE?
CATCH
DAMN... THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE GOOD...


ASGARDIA.
CUTTING IT CLOSE, TITANIA.
SORRY, I WAS BUSY SAVING EVERYONE'S ASSES.
GLAD WE WERE FINALLY ABLE TO GET TO WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM... I GUESS ALL WE NEEDED WAS A HERO TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.
BUT WE'RE FAR FROM DONE.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO MOVE FAST BEFORE THOR OR ANY OF ODIN'S PEOPLE FIGURE OUT THAT WE'RE HERE.
AND WHERE ARE WE, EXACTLY?
LOST DUNGEONS FROM A DARK TIME IN ASGARD'S HISTORY.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT, ENCHANTRESS?
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.
COME. FOLLOW ME. I CAN LEAD US OUT OF THESE PITS.
THEN I WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO MY FORMER GLORY.

DAMN, TITANIA, YOU REALLY THREW DOWN WITH THOR.
YOU WERE LIKE, "BOOM. WELCOME TO THE TITANIA-DOME!"
SHE'S GOING TO THINK TWICE ABOUT MESSING WITH YOU AGAIN.
YOU FEELING GOOD?
NOT REALLY, THUNDERBALL. I STRAIGHT UP SUCKER PUNCHED HER IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD.
IT'S STILL GOING DOWN IN THE RECORD BOOKS AS A WIN.
BUT WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE POWER-UP?
I DON'T KNOW. THE SAME THING HAPPENED WHEN I FOUGHT LUKE CAGE AND IRON FIST.*
IT REMINDS ME OF WHEN DOCTOR DOOM FIRST GAVE ME MY POWERS...
...THAT SAME KIND OF RUSH.
*THIS BADASS FIGHT WAS IN ISSUE #1! --K.K.
WE'RE HERE.
HOW'RE THERE NO GUARDS HERE?
ODIN'S EGO.
NO ONE WOULD DARE STEAL FROM HIM...SO WHY HAVE GUARDS?
ODIN'S HUBRIS...

...IS OUR GAIN.

YES! I TOLD YOU!

IF WE CAN REALLY PROVIDE ALL OF THIS TO THE BAD GUYS OF EARTH, WE'D GET MAD RESPECT.

THE *WRECKING CREW* WILL BE SUPER JEALOUS.

THIS IS GREAT AND EVERYTHING, HOOD, BUT HOW THE HELL ARE WE GOING TO GET ALL OF THIS STUFF *OUT* OF HERE?

EASY PEASY.

BLACK ANT, BABY. *SHRINK IT DOWN.*

WISH YOU PEOPLE WOULD STOP BOSSING ME AROUND.

WRRTTT!

NICE! I LOVE YA!

SMOOCH

DONE AND *DONE.*

LET'S GET GOING. THEN WE CAN START SELLING THESE ENHANCED ASGARDIAN WEAPONS TO OTHER ENTREPRENEURS LIKE OURSELVES AND BE A BETTER MATCH FOR ALL OF THE DUMB HEROES OF THE WORLD.

THE NEW ILLUMINATI IS GONNA BE *RICH!*

TOO BAD I'M NOT INTERESTED IN MONEY, HOOD.
BBBZZZZTTTT!
WHAT THE HELL, THINKER?
AS I SAID WHEN WE FIRST MET-- I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN ASGARDIAN TECHNOLOGY.
YOU HAD TO KNOW THIS WAS COMING.
ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE STORY OF THE SCORPION AND THE FROG?
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT STORY, THINKER!
YOU REALLY ARE OUT OF IDEAS, DUDE.
YOU, SIR...ARE A CLICHÉ.
HM.
BEFORE I WAS GOING TO JUST LEAVE YOU HERE TO FIND YOUR OWN WAY HOME.
BUT NOW...

OUR DEAR BLACK ANT IS SECRETLY A HIGH-POWERED BOMB THAT I JUST ACTIVATED TO GO OFF IN A FEW MOMENTS.
DID YOU REALLY THINK I WOULDN'T HAVE MY OWN ESCAPE PLAN?
GOODBYE, HOOD. GOOD LUCK IN YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.
BBZZT!
MAD THINKER IS BLUFFING!
I'M NOT A BOMB!
WE CAN'T RISK IT!
START SHRINKING!
NOW!
MAYBE IF YOU GET SMALL ENOUGH IT'LL JUST BE A TINY EXPLOSION!
BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?!
GUYS... I DON'T WANT TO DIE AGAIN. YOU PROMISED ME A REAL BODY, HOOD! DYING WASN'T PART OF THE DEAL!
WE'LL FIND A WAY TO SALVAGE YOU. I PROMISE!
OKAY, FINE. I GUESS...
AT THIS SIZE THE EXPLOSION SHOULDN'T BE TOO BAD.

BOOM
NEXT:
ESCAPE FROM
ASGARDIA!

# YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT?*

**BUSTED!**

ILLUMINATI **#5**

MARVEL
#5
2016
ILLUMINATI
WILLIAMSON
WALKER
RAUCH

HELLO AGAIN!
Glad we didn't scare you off!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

Just once I'd like if one of my master plans actually worked, y'know?

After Titania kicked Thor to the curb in an epic showdown, my new Illuminati and I managed to break into the enchanted weapons vault on Asgardia. Fortune and glory was ours!

But instead, the Mad Thinker stabbed us in the back! Whatever happened to honor among thieves?! The Mad Thinker then stole all the weapons from us and left a ticking time bomb in the form of Black Ant. I was hoping Black Ant could shrink down and the explosion wouldn't be too bad but...

...BOOM.

# ILLUMINATI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ASGARDIA.
RAAGHH-- MOVE!
GREAT. JUST GREAT! THE ARMORY'S DESTROYED BECAUSE THE MAD THINKER SCREWED US!
THIS WHOLE GIG IS A WASH. HOW'RE WE SUPPOSED TO UPGRADE IF WE CAN'T EVEN STOP OURSELVES FROM STABBING EACH OTHER IN THE BACK?!
YOU'RE A WALKING DISASTER, HOOD.
BLACK ANT'S... PARTS... MUST HAVE RESIZED AFTER HE BLEW UP IN THE ARMORY.
CAN'T BELIEVE THE THINKER TURNED HIM INTO A LIVING BOMB. THOUGHT THEY WERE BUDDIES...
I WAS EVEN STARTING TO LIKE THE LITTLE FREAK.
HALT.

YOU WILL BE PUNISHED FOR YOUR FOLLY, VILLAINS OF MIDGARD!
ALL-FATHER ODIN'S THUNDER GUARD!
HOOD...?
WE COULDN'T TELEPORT INTO ASGARDIA, BUT, LIKE THE MAD THINKER, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELEPORT BACK OUT, TITANIA.
DOORS OF DORMAMMU!!

YOUR BLACK MAGIC DOESN'T MESH WELL WITH ASGARD, YOU FOOL!
?
WE MIGHT NEED TO RUN.
Bang
Bang
Bang
NO WAY! I'VE DEALT WITH MY FAIR SHARE OF ASGARD TOUGH GUYS BEFORE!
BEEP
FFZZZT
BRING IT ON!
IT'S WRECKING TIME!

SSLLSSSHH
ON MIDGARD YOUR ENCHANTED WEAPON MIGHT BE DEADLY, BUT HERE AGAINST OTHER ASGARDIAN WEAPONS IT IS MERELY A BALL AND CHAIN.
NOW IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIVES, YOU WILL SURRENDER TO US WITHOUT STRUGGLE.
STEP ASIDE.
THESE MEN WILL BOW DOWN TO ME.
REMOVE YOURSELF FROM THUNDERBALL!

I AM THE ENCHANTRESS.
LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS OR SUFFER MY WRATH!
YOU...YOU ARE NOT THE ENCHANTRESS, GIRL.
HOW DARE YOU?!
I AM A GOD!
OBEY ME!
SHOVE
YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A CHILD-- PRETENDER!
B-BUT I AM A GOD...
OH, CRAP. YOU'RE WHAT'S-HER-NAME...SYLVIE SOMETHING, RIGHT? I HEARD'A YOU... THE FAKE ENCHANTRESS.
IS ANYONE ON THIS TEAM TELLING THE TRUTH?!
IT'S TIME YOU CALL IN YOUR ARMY, HOOD-- THE REST OF THE ILLUMINATI! WE'LL NEED SOME HEAVY-HITTER BACKUP.
SEE... WELL... HAHA.
FUNNY STORY...

...THERE IS NO ONE ELSE. WE'RE IT.
Bang
Bang
Bang
WHAT?!
I THOUGHT IF OUR LITTLE GROUP WORKED, THE REST WOULD SIGN UP.
BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME, Y'KNOW?!
I'M GOING TO CHOKE YOU WITH YOUR OWN CLOAK, YOU LITTLE...
THIS BATTLE IS OVER!
SEIZE THEM ALL.
THOU WILT SPEND A LIFETIME IN OUR PRISONS BEFORE WE SEND THEE BACK TO WHENCE THEE CAME.
LET ME GO!
EVERYONE JUST CHILL, OKAY?
HOW BAD CAN AN ASGARDIAN PRISON REALLY BE?
NO!
WE WILL NOT LOSE THIS TIME!

I REFUSE
TO SPEND
ANOTHER MINUTE
BEHIND BARS!

ARGH!
THOOM
WHOA, GIRL.
YES!
"WHAT IN THE NAME OF HEL IS HAPPENING DOWN THERE?!"

HAS MY KINGDOM BEEN INVADED AGAIN?!
IT APPEARS A BAND OF HUMANS WERE TRYING TO STEAL FROM THE ARMORY.
ISN'T THIS THE KIND OF TRESPASS THAT IS YOUR DUTY TO REPRESS, BROTHER?
BRING YOUR FULL MIGHT DOWN ON THEM!
IT WILL BE DONE, MY LORD.
ODIN. THE ALL-FATHER.
IT'S TIME TO GO, TITANIA.
NO!
WE NEED TO FIND SOMETHING TO STEAL.
TO MAKE THIS ALL WORTH IT.
I'M SICK OF LOSING.
TAKING A STEP BACK WHEN SOMETHING DOESN'T WORK OUT IS NOT LOSING.
REMEMBER WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT...BEING SMARTER? WALKING AWAY IS PART OF THAT.
BUT--
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ABSORBING MAN IF YOU'RE ROTTING IN AN ASGARDIAN PRISON?
CARL?
HE'D TELL ME TO KEEP FIGHTING...

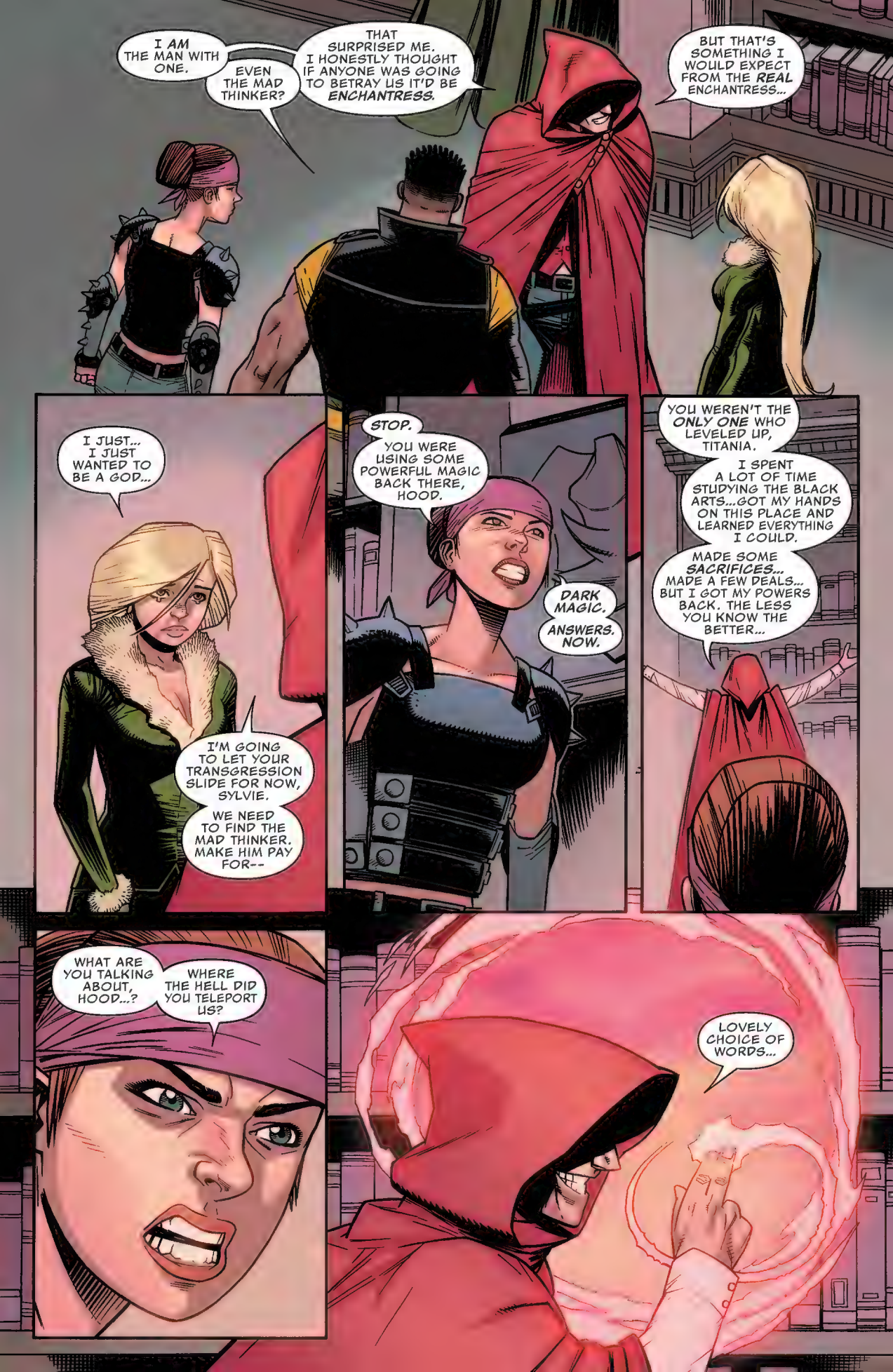
WHICH IS WHY I SHOULD *STOP*.
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME?
MY POWERS...
YOU'RE FINALLY HITTING YOUR *TRUE POTENTIAL*.
THIS IS WHY I WANTED TO WORK WITH YOU IN THE *FIRST PLACE*.
*YOU'RE* THE REAL WEAPON WE NEED AGAINST THE HEROES.
YOU KNEW ABOUT THIS...? HOW?
A LITTLE BIRDIE TOLD ME.
HEY, GUYS... SHARING TIME IS OVER.
*PREPARE TO DIE, THIEVES!*
CUL BORSON. GOD OF FEAR.
THE DESTROYER.

MAYBE I CAN... POWER UP AGAIN?
NO NEED...
THUNDERBALL... PUNCH ME.
?
WHAT?
JUST A LIGHT TAP, RIGHT IN MY FACE.
ARE YOU CRAZY?
C'MON!
I'LL DO IT.
SMACK
HM.
TIME FOR SOME...
...BLOOD MAGIC.
HOUNDS OF HELL, I COMMAND YOU TO...

...UNLEASH HELL ON ASGARDIA!
THAT'LL KEEP THEE BUSY.

THIS IS GREAT, HOOD... BUT HOW DO WE ESCAPE?!
DOORS OF DORMAMMU!
NOW!
THOU WON'T!
THOU SHALT DIE IN THE NAME OF ODIN!
FFWOOOSH!!
I WILL FIND YOU, COWARDS!
CHUNK

THE HOOD'S LAIR.
POOF
...HOME SWEET HOME...
ARE YOU INSANE, HOOD?!
IF YOU HAD THAT KIND OF SPELL--
WHY DIDN'T YOU DO THAT BEFORE?!
BECAUSE I WAS HOPING THE BATTLE WOULD ACTIVATE TITANIA'S NEW POWERS.
SO ALL OF THIS WAS PART OF YOUR PLAN?!


I AM THE MAN WITH ONE.
EVEN THE MAD THINKER?
THAT SURPRISED ME. I HONESTLY THOUGHT IF ANYONE WAS GOING TO BETRAY US IT'D BE ENCHANTRESS.
BUT THAT'S SOMETHING I WOULD EXPECT FROM THE REAL ENCHANTRESS...
I JUST... I JUST WANTED TO BE A GOD...
I'M GOING TO LET YOUR TRANSGRESSION SLIDE FOR NOW, SYLVIE.
WE NEED TO FIND THE MAD THINKER. MAKE HIM PAY FOR--
STOP.
YOU WERE USING SOME POWERFUL MAGIC BACK THERE, HOOD.
DARK MAGIC.
ANSWERS. NOW.
YOU WEREN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO LEVELED UP, TITANIA.
I SPENT A LOT OF TIME STUDYING THE BLACK ARTS...GOT MY HANDS ON THIS PLACE AND LEARNED EVERYTHING I COULD.
MADE SOME SACRIFICES... MADE A FEW DEALS... BUT I GOT MY POWERS BACK. THE LESS YOU KNOW THE BETTER...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, HOOD...?
WHERE THE HELL DID YOU TELEPORT US?
LOVELY CHOICE OF WORDS...

...RIGHT WHERE THE HEROES WOULD EXPECT US, BUT COULD NEVER ACCESS THEMSELVES.
BEFORE YOU ASK, I DIDN'T REALLY SELL MY SOUL...
MORE LIKE A LOAN.
HELL.
I USED TO JOKE THAT I ALREADY HAD A PLACE IN HELL, BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH.
YOU DID ALL OF THIS TO GIVE ME AN UPGRADE?
THINK ABOUT THE POWER YOU HAVE NOW!
EVERYONE IS GOING TO HEAR ABOUT IT... THEY WON'T MESS WITH THE ILLUMINATI NOW THAT WE HAVE YOU.
AND THE NEW MEMBERS WILL COME CALLING!
ARE YOU KIDDING? WHAT ABOUT ALL THE ENEMIES WE ALREADY MADE?!

"THE FENRIS TWINS AND ALL THE VILLAINS AT THEIR CLUB?
ROXX
"ROXXON?
"THOR...
"...AND I'M PRETTY SURE ALL OF ASGARDIA?"
THAT'S A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT TO GET US!
ALL SO YOU COULD GET A BIGGER REP?!
YOU CAN'T MAKE AN OMELET WITHOUT BREAKING A FEW EGGS.
HOW ABOUT I BREAK YOU?!

NO.
YOU'RE NOT WORTH IT.
THIS IS OVER!
I'M DONE LETTING YOU GET UNDER MY SKIN, HOOD.
SHOULD HAVE STUCK WITH MY GUT AND WALKED THE MOMENT I SAW YOUR RED CLOAK.
TELEPORT ME BACK TO NEW YORK. I'D RATHER FACE THE MUSIC WITH THE PAROLE BOARD THAN WORK WITH YOU.

MY OFFER STILL STANDS, TITANIA...
I'M NOBODY'S TOOL, HOOD. TAKE ME HOME.
I CAN'T TRUST YOU.
AND YOU SHOULDN'T... BUT THAT WASN'T THE OFFER I WAS TALKING ABOUT.
I'M OFFERING TO HELP YOU...

"...FREE YOUR HUSBAND."
HOW YA DOING, HAROLD?
JUST ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE, SHERIFF EVA.
MATCH FOUND: CRUSHER CREEL, A.K.A. ABSORBING MAN.
C'MON... WHAT DO VILLAINS DO BETTER THAN ESCAPE PRISON?
NEXT MONTH:
STANDOFF

Read about the mysterious little town that's employing the Absorbing Man as an ice cream scooper in...

# STANDOFF

## ASSAULT ON PLEASANT HILL

**STANDOFF: WELCOME TO PLEASANT HILL #1**
IN STORES NOW!

**STANDOFF: ASSAULT ON PLEASANT HILL ALPHA #1**
IN STORES NOW!

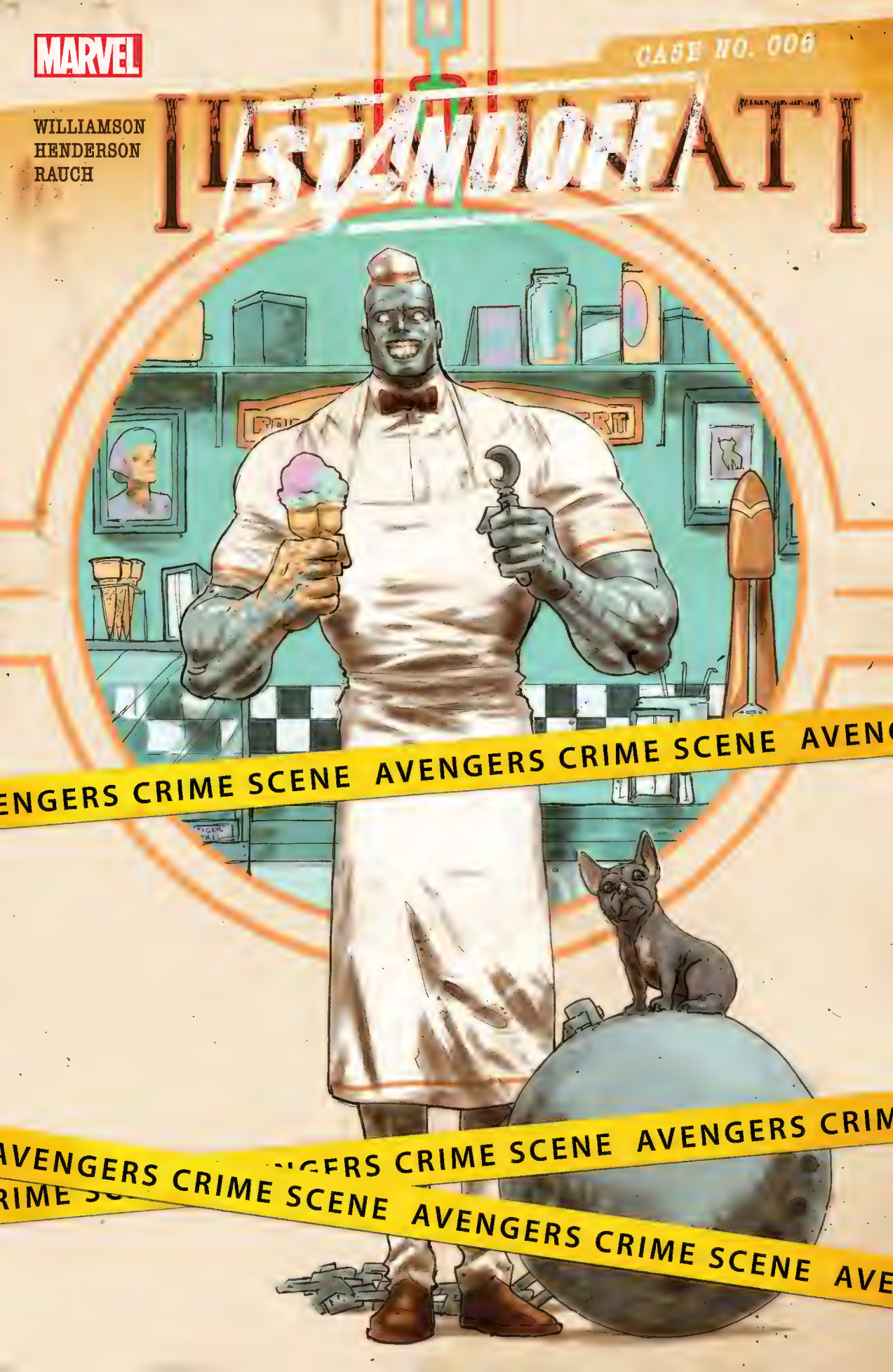
**ILLUMINATI #6**
COMING IN APRIL

MARVEL

CASE NO. 006

WILLIAMSON
HENDERSON
RAUCH

# [ STAND OFF ]



HELLO AGAIN!
Glad we didn't scare you off!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

A deal's a deal. I promised Titania that if she worked with me on the Asgardia job I'd help her husband, the Absorbing Man, break out of prison.

The only problem is that the Absorbing Man has been locked up in some fancy prison called "Pleasant Hill." Built by Maria Hill and S.H.I.E.L.D.'s new toy Kobik, it's messing with everyone's minds, making the prisoners think they're someone else.

It was only a matter of time before someone like Baron Zemo woke up and used it against them. But that wasn't our worry...Titania and I just wanted to free Absorbing Man. Get in and get out...

# ILLUMINATI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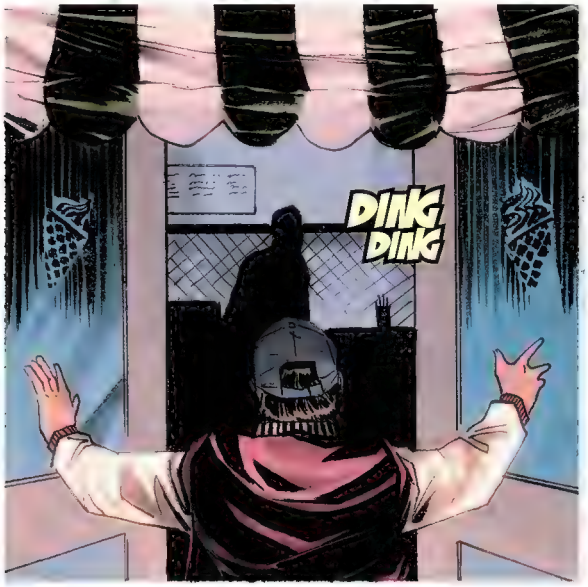
THE HOOD'S HOUSE OF HELL.
YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT, CARL?
NOT REALLY.
YOU NEED TO TELL US WHAT HAPPENED IN *PLEASANT HILL.*
YOUR WIFE AND I JUST WANT TO *HELP YOU.*
WHATEVER. MY--
*HIS* NAME WAS *HAROLD.*
AND HE WAS HAPPY.

PLEASANT HILL.
BEFORE.

PIZZA
MORNING, SCOTTY!
HOWDY!

HEY! WHERE YOU OFF TO IN SUCH A HURRY?!
I GOTTA GET THE INSIDE SCOOP!


DING DING

WELL, LOOK WHO IT IS... MISTER STUD HIMSELF!

SHUT UP OR I'LL SPIT IN YOUR COFFEE, SCOTTY.

NOT A CHANCE, HAROLD. YOU GOT THE WHOLE TOWN TALKING ABOUT LAST NIGHT.

THE TOWN NEEDS TO GET A LIFE.
YOU GONNA TELL ME ABOUT IT OR WHAT?
IT WAS NOTHING.

YOU'VE HAD A CRUSH ON SHERIFF EVA FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER!
WHAT MADE LAST NIGHT DIFFERENT?

I DON'T KNOW, REALLY.
IT WAS JUST LIKE ANY OTHER NIGHT. I WAS EATING BARBECUE AT ARLEEN'S...THE BAND WAS ON FIRE AND I WAS JUST HANGING OUT WITH MY FRIENDS, Y'KNOW?

THERE WAS JUST THIS MOMENT WHERE I SAW EVA STANDING THERE AND I THOUGHT TO MYSELF...

...CAN I HAVE THIS DANCE?

AND THEN?

AND THEN YOU SAW.
WE DANCED TO *ONE SONG* AND I WENT BACK TO MY TABLE AND KEPT EATING BARBECUE, AND SHE WENT BACK TO UPHOLDING THE LAW.
*END OF STORY.* SO DON'T GO AROUND SPREADING *RUMORS.*
DANG.

NOW, SHOULDN'T YOU BE AT WORK? IF YOU'RE LATE *AGAIN* THEY'RE GONNA CAN YOU.

YOU'RE NOT GETTIN' RID OF ME *THAT EASY*, BUDDY. THIS IS THE BIGGEST THING TO HAPPEN IN PLEASANT HILL IN...*FOREVER*.
NOTHING EVER HAPPENS HERE.

LISTEN, IT WAS JUST *NICE*, OKAY?
SOMETIMES ALL IS RIGHT IN THE WORLD AND...YOU GOTTA TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH.

SHERIFF EVA AND HAROLD SITTING IN A TREE.
K-I-S-S-I-N-G!

FIRST COMES LOVE.
THEN COMES--

--MARRIAGE.
W-WHAT THE HELL...?
WHIRLWIND?!

PLEASANT HILL... ALL OF IT...WAS S.H.I.E.L.D.'S BRIGHT IDEA OF A PRISON. TRICK US OR WHATEVER INTO THINKING WE WERE LEADING THESE PERFECT LIVES IN SOME SMALL TOWN, USA.
NOT TOTALLY SURE WHAT HAPPENED... I GUESS ZEMO OR THE AVENGERS WOKE US ALL UP.
BUT I REMEMBERED EVERYTHING.

KRUNCH
ARGH!

PLEASANT HILL WAS ALREADY DEEP IN CHAOS BY THEN. HEROES FIGHTING HEROES. AND ZEMO'S CREW TEARING THE PLACE APART.
WHIRLWIND AND I MISSED SOME OF THE ACTION WHILE WE WERE "ASLEEP," BUT WE WERE PISSED.
THIS IS JACKED UP! MAKING ME SOME SNOT-NOSED KID!
WWHOOSSSSHHH
WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THIS?!
WHAT DID YOU DO?
WHAT DID YOU DO TO US?
KRAK!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!

KRAK!
STOP!
NO KILLING, ABSORBING MAN.
ELEKTRA! YOU MUST HAVE ANGERED SOMEONE BIG IF THEY'D THROW YOU IN WITH THE LOT OF US. AIN'T YOU SOME KIND OF ASSASSIN?!
WHY DO YOU CARE ABOUT SOME DUMB S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS?
SMAK
I'M JUST AS CONFUSED AS YOU ARE BY ALL OF THIS, BUT WE SHOULDN'T KILL ANYONE. THESE PEOPLE COULD BE INNOCENT.
HAROLD'S ICE CREAM
FORCED INTO THAT FALSE REALITY JUST AS MUCH AS US.
SOMETHING THEY DID TO ME... IS MAKING ME FEEL LIKE I NEED TO SAVE LIVES...
OH YEAH, WHAT'D THEY MAKE YOU, HUH?
THE LIFEGUARD AT THE KIDDIE POOL?

DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
I'D LOVE TO.
WE...KNEW EACH OTHER, ABSORBING MAN. AND...
...I CAN'T LET YOU KILL THESE PEOPLE.
HUNH?
SHERIFF EVA?
YOU WERE THE LAW HERE, SO YOU MUST HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH S.H.I.E.L.D.! WHY ELSE WOULD THEY MAKE YOU SHERIFF?!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!

WHOOSH!
BACK OFF, YA DAMN NINJA!
-UGH!-
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING FIGHTING US FOR, GIRL?
DIDN'T THEY MESS WITH YOUR HEAD, TOO?!
IF YOU'RE TEAM S.H.I.E.L.D., I SHOULD SLAUGHTER YOU RIGHT--
LET HER GO, WHIRLWIND. SHE CAN'T...HELP HERSELF.
ELEKTRA, I...
YOU'RE RIGHT, CRUSHER. IT WASN'T REAL.
I HAVE TO GO.
YOU JUST GONNA LET HER RUN OFF AFTER SHE WAS ABOUT TO CUT YOUR NECK OPEN?
I...WE HAVE BIGGER PROBLEMS...

"...THE #$%@ HAS HIT THE FAN! S.H.I.E.L.D. HAS LOST CONTROL! AND THE INMATES ARE DESTROYING THE ASYLUM!
"IF THE AVENGERS AREN'T ALREADY HERE, THEY'VE GOT TO BE ON THEIR WAY!"
OH, I CAN'T WAIT TO WRECK SOME AVENGERS. SOMEBODY'S GOT TO PAY FOR TURNING ME INTO THAT STUPID KID!
CRAP, THAT NEW THOR IS HERE...I'M TAPPING OUT.
YOU REALLY GONNA MISS OUT ON A CHANCE TO TAKE HER ON AGAIN?
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF ANY OF THIS IS REAL--
BOOM!
-UGH-
CRUSHER CREEL-- GET UP NOW!
YOU CAN TAKE ME BACK, S.H.I.E.L.D., BUT DON'T...DON'T MAKE ME HAROLD AGAIN, PLEASE.

SMASH!
BANG BANG
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, CARL?
GET OFF YOUR ASS AND FIGHT!
NICE MESS YOU'VE GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO, ABSORBING MAN!
AND THEN YOU SHOWED UP WITH MY WIFE.
THE S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS WERE STILL TRYING TO CONTAIN THE SITUATION, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON ANYMORE. MY HEAD WAS STILL ROCKED FROM... THE EXPLOSION.
TITANIA? HOOD? YOU'RE NOT REAL... NONE OF THIS IS.
RED ALERT! RED ALERT!
WE HAVE NEW PLAYERS ON THE SCENE THAT ARE HELPING THE PRISONERS ESCAPE AND WE NEED MASSIVE BACKUP!

GET AWAY FROM MY HUSBAND!
THOOM!
CARL...?
SKEETER?
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED, CARL.
IS IT?
NO.

CARL...?
SKEETER...? I CAN'T...I JUST CAN'T.
WAIT... WHAT?
GET ME THE HELL OUTTA HERE.

DONE.
DOORS OF DORMAMMU.

THAT'S IT, HOOD. THAT SHOULD BRING YOU UP TO SPEED. S.H.I.E.L.D. REALLY DID A NUMBER ON ME. ELEKTRA...THAT DAMN STUPID HAT THEY HAD ME WEARING. MY MEMORIES ARE ALL JUMBLED UP...
...THIS... THIS IS JUST A LOT TO ABSORB.
DON'T KNOW WHAT THE AVENGERS WERE DOING THERE AND I DON'T CARE. I HOPE THEY ALL KILL EACH OTHER.
WE'D NEVER BE SO LUCKY.
BUT I'M GLAD THAT YOU AND WHIRLWIND ARE HERE WITH US NOW.
YOU BOTH CAN JOIN OUR NEW ILLUMINATI. WHIRLWIND'S ALREADY GETTING THE TOUR FROM THUNDERBALL AS WE SPEAK.

HOW CAN I EVEN TRUST THAT THIS IS REAL, HOOD?
THAT YOU AND MY WIFE AND THIS PLACE ARE NOT PART OF S.H.I.E.L.D.'S GAME? STILL MESSING WITH MY HEAD?!
HOW DID YOU EVEN FIND ME?
THIS IS REAL, CARL.
FINDING YOU TOOK SOME... PERSUASION.
PLEASANT HILL!
IT'S CALLED PLEASANT HILL!
ONCE WE ARRIVED IT APPEARED THAT ALL HELL HAD ALREADY BROKEN LOOSE. WE HAD NO IDEA THEY WERE MESSING WITH REALITY.
IT WASN'T JUST THAT...
S.H.I.E.L.D. GAVE ME WHAT I NEVER KNEW I WANTED!
WHEN I WAS HAROLD...
...THAT WAS THE HAPPIEST I'VE BEEN IN MY WHOLE LIFE.
AND THEN THEY TOOK IT FROM ME.
YOU'RE SAYING THE HAPPIEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN...

...IS WHEN YOU WERE AWAY FROM *ME*?
*HA...*
ELEKTRA? THAT SKINNY MINNIE? REALLY?
TITANIA...? SKEETER...?
IT WASN'T REAL, HONEY. THEY WERE... *THEY MESSED WITH MY HEAD!*
BUT YOU WERE RIGHT. I DID WANT THAT LIFE YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT.
*THE NORMAL LIFE!*

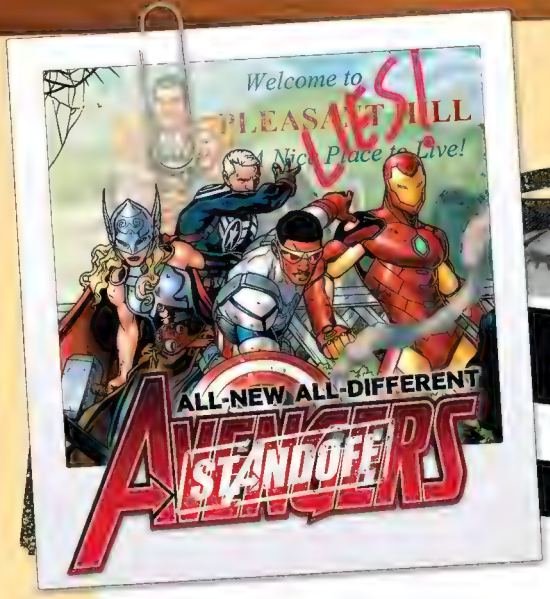
YEAH, IT TOOK A S.H.I.E.L.D. MIND-$#@& TO MAKE YOU EVEN CONSIDER IT, SO LIKE YOU SAID...
IT WAS ALL FAKE. IT WAS NEVER GOING TO BE A REALITY.
HOOD, YOU SON OF A BITCH. YOU DIDN'T TELL ME SHE WAS LISTENING!
IT'S NOT MY JOB TO KEEP TABS ON YOUR WIFE.
I DIDN'T WANT HER TO KNOW ABOUT ELEKTRA OR ABOUT...
...WHAT THE HELL IS SHE DOING HERE WITH YOU, ANYWAY?
WE'VE BEEN BRINGING TOGETHER LIKE-MINDED INDIVIDUALS IN AN EFFORT FOR US TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES TO BETTER THEIR LIVES.
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S ALL ABOUT FORTUNE AND GLORY.
WE'VE HAD A FEW SETBACKS RECENTLY, BUT OUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT IS CLEAR AND WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU WORK WITH US.
WE WANT TO GO AFTER THE MAD THINKER FOR STABBING US IN THE--
NAH NAH NAH.
I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT.

S.H.I.E.L.D. AND THE HEROES *CROSSED THE LINE* WITH US THIS TIME, MESSING WITH OUR HEADS LIKE THIS. THE FUN AND GAMES ARE *OVER*. I'M DONE ROBBING BANKS.
WE'RE GOING TO FIND EVERY SINGLE PRISONER S.H.I.E.L.D. SCREWED WITH IN PLEASANT HILL, GET THEM TOGETHER TO JOIN YOUR NEW ILLUMINATI.
AND THEN, AS ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE S.H.I.E.L.D. HURT FOR WHAT THEY DID TO US. *REALLY PAY.*
EVEN IF WE HAVE TO KILL THEM IN THEIR SLEEP.
NEXT ISSUE: REVENGE!

# YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT?*

**DON'T MISS:** ILLUMINATI #7

CASE NO. 001



# CHECKLIST

## FEBRUARY

- [x] AVENGERS STANDOFF: WELCOME TO PLEASANT HILL #1

## MARCH

- [x] AVENGERS STANDOFF: ASSAULT ON PLEASANT HILL ALPHA #1
- [x] AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D. #3
- [x] UNCANNY AVENGERS #7
- [x] ALL-NEW, ALL-DIFFERENT AVENGERS #7
- [x] NEW AVENGERS #8
- [x] HOWLING COMMANDOS OF S.H.I.E.L.D. #6
- [x] CAPTAIN AMERICA: SAM WILSON #7

## APRIL

- [x] UNCANNY AVENGERS #8
- [x] NEW AVENGERS #9
- [x] ILLUMINATI #6
- [ ] AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D. #4
- [ ] ALL-NEW, ALL-DIFFERENT AVENGERS #8
- [ ] NEW AVENGERS #10
- [ ] CAPTAIN AMERICA: SAM WILSON #8
- [ ] AVENGERS STANDOFF: ASSAULT ON PLEASANT HILL OMEGA #1

MARVEL
#7
2016
ILLUMINATI
WILLIAMSON • CRYSTAL • RAUCH
CBRUNNER

HELLO AGAIN!
Glad we didn't scare you off!

My name is Parker Robbins, but you may call me THE HOOD.

S.H.I.E.L.D. really screwed up this time...creating a prison like Pleasant Hill and messing with the inmates minds was crossing the line.

They've given me the perfect opportunity to recruit criminals to my cause. A rallying cry to unite the criminals against the heroes...to be able to say "NEVER AGAIN." We won't let them defeat us ever again.

My crew has been a bit fractured ever since the Asgardia heist went south. I helped Titania free Absorbing Man, so they're still here, but Thunderball and Enchantress are off on their own... I know they're all going to come crawling back to me eventually...

They ALWAYS do.

# ILLUMINATI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ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO.
WHY ARE YOU HERE, PARKER?
WHAT? A GUY CAN'T VISIT HIS WIFE AND KID?
I JUST WANTED TO DROP OFF SOME MONEY AND TOYS FOR MY DAUGHTER, SARA.
YOU ARE SUCH A LIAR. YOU JUST CAN'T HELP YOURSELF.
YOU THINK I DIDN'T NOTICE THAT YOU'RE BACK TO WEARING THAT...THAT... HOOD?
IF I WAS EVER GOING TO MAKE SOMETHING OF MYSELF...FOR THIS FAMILY...
...I NEEDED TO DO A FEW THINGS I'M NOT PROUD OF.
BUT... I REALLY WISH YOU'D SEE THINGS MY WAY, BECAUSE...
...EVERYTHING I DO...I DO FOR YOU.
FOR YOU AND BRIANNA.
PARKER...?
W-WHERE IS OUR SECURITY DETAIL?

"DON'T WORRY ABOUT THEM..."
...I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU RATTED ME OUT TO S.H.I.E.L.D. AFTER I ESCAPED PRISON. WITNESS PROTECTION?
S.H.I.E.L.D. KICKED IN OUR DOOR, PARKER, WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?
STAND BY ME.
HOW DID YOU EVEN FIND US?
YOU CAN DO ANYTHING IF YOU'RE WILLING TO MAKE SOME... SACRIFICES.
I JUST WANTED TO BE WITH YOU...TAKE YOU BACK FROM S.H.I.E.L.D.
PARKER, YOU LOST US LONG BEFORE THEY TOOK US. NOW LEAVE.
WWAA!
THEY'RE GOING TO REGRET TURNING YOU AGAINST ME.
DOOR OF DORMAMMU.
POOF!
:SOB:
IT'S OKAY, BABY. THE BAD MAN IS GONE... IT'S OKAY.
WE'RE NEVER GOING TO DEAL WITH YOUR LOSER FATHER...

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.
"...OR ANY OF HIS FRIENDS EVER AGAIN..."
STUPID MOVE COMING HOME, SCORCHER.
YOU HAD TO KNOW S.H.I.E.L.D. STAKED OUT YOUR OLD HAUNTS.
MAYBE I JUST WANTED SOME HOME COOKING, OKAY?
AFTER THE GARBAGE S.H.I.E.L.D. PULLED ON ME IN PLEASANT HILL, I NEEDED TO MAKE SURE MY PAST WAS REAL THIS TIME.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...
AS FAR AS I KNOW...THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A PLACE CALLED PLEASANT HILL.
EITHER YOU'RE PLAYING DUMB OR THEY MESSED WITH YOUR HEAD, TOO.
JUST... SEND ME TO A NORMAL PRISON THIS TIME.
YOU'RE GOING NOWHERE!

TAKE OUT THE S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS WHILE I TAKE OUT THE TRUCK, TITANIA!

I KNOW, ABSORBING MAN!

WHAT THE HELL ARE *YOU* TWO DOING HERE?!

WE'RE TRYING TO FREE EVERYONE WHO WAS IMPRISONED IN PLEASANT HILL!

Bang

Bang

Bang Bang

Bang

PUNCH

SO, WHAT DID KOBIK TURN *YOU* INTO IN PLEASANT HILL, SCORCHER?!

OH, YOU WON'T BELIEVE THE *JOKE* S.H.I.E.L.D. PULLED ON ME, ABSORBING MAN!

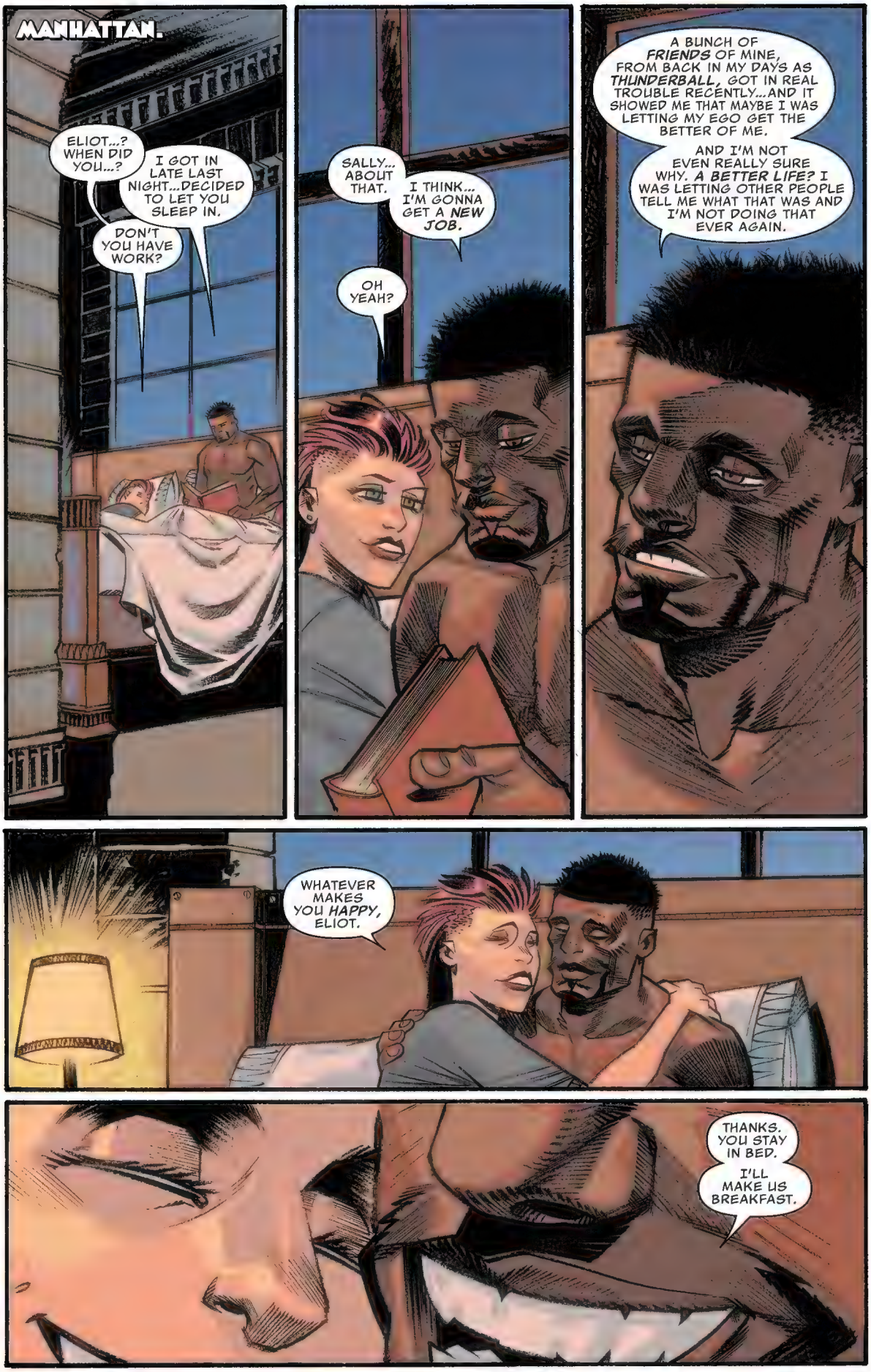
"THEY MADE ME A *FIREMAN!*"

I WAS... -LIGH-...A DAMNED SODA SHOP LOSER!

WE GOTTA MAKE 'EM PAY, MAN!

HIT 'EM WHERE IT HURTS!
HOW?
THE HOOD HAS AN IDEA... AND I TRUST HIM THIS TIME.
WHADDAYA SAY?
BOOM!
I'M IN.
CARL... ARE YOU SURE WE WANT TO GO BACK TO THE HOOD?
KRAK!
YOU REALLY WANT TO TALK ABOUT THIS NOW IN FRONT OF MY BUDDY HERE, SKEETER?
CARL, THIS IS OUR SHOT.
YOU PROMISED WE'D GO STRAIGHT.

I THINK THE WORLD HAS SHOWN US THAT JUST ISN'T AN OPTION.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT S.H.I.E.L.D. DID TO ME...TO A LOT OF PEOPLE... THEY CROSSED A LINE.
ONLY BECAUSE WE KEEP BREAKING THE LAW FIRST.
IS--IS THIS ABOUT ELEKTRA?
DON'T EVEN.
OKAY, FINE, WHATEVER... ARE YOU WITH ME?
ARE YOU WITH ME?
HEY, LOVEBIRDS... CAN ONE OF YOU GET ME OUT OF THIS THING?
YEAH, SURE...
SNAP
C'MON!
THE HOOD HAS A PICKUP LOCATION FOR US!
SO...I GUESS WE WERE DONE TALKING...
I CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONE WHO IS SECOND GUESSING THE HOOD... RIGHT?


MANHATTAN.
ELIOT...? WHEN DID YOU...?
I GOT IN LATE LAST NIGHT...DECIDED TO LET YOU SLEEP IN.
DON'T YOU HAVE WORK?
SALLY... ABOUT THAT.
I THINK... I'M GONNA GET A NEW JOB.
OH YEAH?
A BUNCH OF FRIENDS OF MINE, FROM BACK IN MY DAYS AS THUNDERBALL, GOT IN REAL TROUBLE RECENTLY...AND IT SHOWED ME THAT MAYBE I WAS LETTING MY EGO GET THE BETTER OF ME.
AND I'M NOT EVEN REALLY SURE WHY. A BETTER LIFE? I WAS LETTING OTHER PEOPLE TELL ME WHAT THAT WAS AND I'M NOT DOING THAT EVER AGAIN.
WHATEVER MAKES YOU HAPPY, ELIOT.
THANKS. YOU STAY IN BED.
I'LL MAKE US BREAKFAST.

GREENWICH VILLAGE.
I HATE YOU.
CELLAR
I HATE THAT I'M ONE OF YOU. I SHOULD BE A GOD.
ALL I EVER WANTED WAS TO PROVE THAT I WAS MORE THAN JUST SOME DUMB GIRL FROM BROXTON. THAT I COULD BE BETTER.
I'M OWED THAT.
AND WHY IS THAT?
OH, NO...
WHAT EXACTLY DID YOU DO THAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU SHOULD BE A GOD...LET ALONE TAKE THE NAME ENCHANTRESS?
DID YOU EARN IT?
I THOUGHT IF I WAS THE ENCHANTRESS... PEOPLE WOULD TAKE ME SERIOUSLY...
THERE IS ONLY ONE ENCHANTRESS, SYLVIE LUSHTON.

BUT I SUPPOSE IMITATION IS THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY.
INSTEAD OF KILLING YOU, I'LL BANISH YOU TO THE HARSHEST OF THE TEN REALMS.
EEEEEEE!!!
AND WE'LL SEE HOW YOU FARE THERE. IF YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO SURVIVE... MAYBE, JUST MAYBE...
...WE CAN BE FRIENDS.
FWOOSH
BUT I DOUBT IT.

THE HOOD'S HOUSE OF HELL.
WOW... A LOT OF PEOPLE SHOWED UP.
THE WORD IS OUT ABOUT PLEASANT HILL AND PEOPLE ARE PISSED.
YOU SEE ENCHANTRESS OR THUNDERBALL, WHIRLWIND?
THEY MUST BE RUNNING LATE.
MAYBE THEY'RE SMART AND DECIDED TO STAY AWAY.
THEIR LOSS.
WE DON'T NEED THEM, TITANIA.
BUT IT IS TIME THAT WE TALKED ABOUT THE NUMBER ONE THING STANDING IN OUR WAY TO FAME AND RICHES.
IT'S NOT THE HEROES.

IT'S US.
BECAUSE WE LET OURSELVES LOSE.
DON'T PRETEND FOR ONE SECOND THAT ANY OF YOU ARE BETTER THAN ME. YOU'VE ALL LAUGHED BEHIND MY BACK...CALLED ME A SCREWUP. BUT HAVE ANY OF YOU EVER WON ANYTHING? HUH?
NOT A ONE OF YOU HAS A DAMN THING TO SHOW FOR YOUR LIFE OF CRIME. WE'VE CREATED SOME KIND OF MORAL HIGH GROUND THAT LETS US FEEL LIKE WE'RE THE HEROES IN OUR OWN STORY...
...WHEN WE ALL KNOW THAT WE'RE THE BAD GUYS!
I SAY WE KILL 'EM! JUST WALK INTO THE AVENGERS' HOMES WHILE THEY'RE ASLEEP AND BLOW THEIR BRAINS OUT!
YEAH!
AS IF THAT WASN'T EVERY OTHER CRIMINAL'S PLAN IN THE PAST.
TITANIA IS RIGHT. THE MOMENT WE KILL ONE, WE'LL HAVE A HUNDRED AVENGERS HUNTING US DOWN.
SO WE HAVE TO MAKE IT WORTH IT. IN PLEASANT HILL, THEY GAVE YOU FAKE HAPPY LIVES AND THEN TOOK THEM AWAY...BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT THEY'VE BEEN DOING ALL ALONG?
TAKING AWAY OUR CHANCE AT HAPPINESS?
WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT REVENGE.
WHAT WE NEED TO DO...

...IS KILL THEIR FAMILIES.
WHAT?!
THAT'S WHAT THEY HAVE TAKEN FROM US, TITANIA.
NO WAY. WE NEVER MESS WITH SOMEONE'S FAMILY.
THEY HAVE TAKEN THAT FROM ME...FROM US.
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU OR YOUR FAMILY, BUT I'M WILLING TO BET THE ONLY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU LOSING YOUR FAMILY IS YOU, HOOD.
CARL, TITANIA, HOW MANY TIMES HAVE THEY BROKEN YOU TWO UP? SEPARATED YOU?
STOPPED THE TWO OF YOU FROM HAVING ANY KIND OF LIFE OF YOUR CHOOSING? FROM HAVING A HAPPY MARRIAGE?
HEY, NOW... NO DAMN HERO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYTHING WITH OUR MARRIAGE--GOOD OR BAD.
AND Y'KNOW WHAT...I THINK I'M DONE HERE, HOOD.

WE ALL ARE.
AFTER ALL THE THINGS I'VE DONE FOR YOU, YOU BETRAY ME LIKE THIS?!
I HELPED YOU, TITANIA.
THE DARK MAGIC I USED TO GIVE YOU THOSE NEW POWERS!
I GOT YOU OUT OF THAT CRAPPY PAWN JOB!
WAIT... YOU DID WHAT?
YOU SET ME UP?
I NEEDED YOU TO SEE THAT YOU WOULD NEVER BE ALLOWED TO HAVE A NORMAL LIFE!
BY SCREWING ME OVER?
YOUR NEW POWERS MEAN THAT YOU ARE THE NEWEST WEAPON IN THE UNIVERSE, TITANIA!
TELEPORT US BACK TO NEW YORK. ALL OF US.
NOW.
FINE.
DOORS OF DORMAMMU.

SQUARE
WHAT THE HELL, HOOD?
YOU DROPPED US IN THE CENTER OF TIMES SQUARE? ARE YOU CRAZY?!
IF YOU'RE NOT WITH ME...YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
POOF
RUN! THE COPS WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND!
HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY, TITANIA. ENJOY YOUR ATTEMPT AT A NORMAL LIFE.
DOORS OF DOR--
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, HOOD.
NOT UNTIL YOU EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT GAVE YOU THE RIGHT TO PLAY GOD WITH MY LIFE LIKE THAT.
KK!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
HOOD...I'D LIKE TO BELIEVE THIS ISN'T YOU. THAT IT'S THE CLOAK AND THE DARK BLOOD MAGIC YOU'RE PLAYING WITH.
IT'S MESSING WITH YOUR HEAD.
YOU DON'T KNOW ME!

YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST OPEN FIRE ON MY WIFE, HOOD?!
Tng
Tng
Tng
BANG
BAM
STAY OUTTA THIS, CARL!
THIS LITTLE LOSER IS MINE.
SMACK
OH, AM I?!
HOUNDS OF HELL! I CALL ON--
KRAK
WHOO WHOO WHOO
POLICE

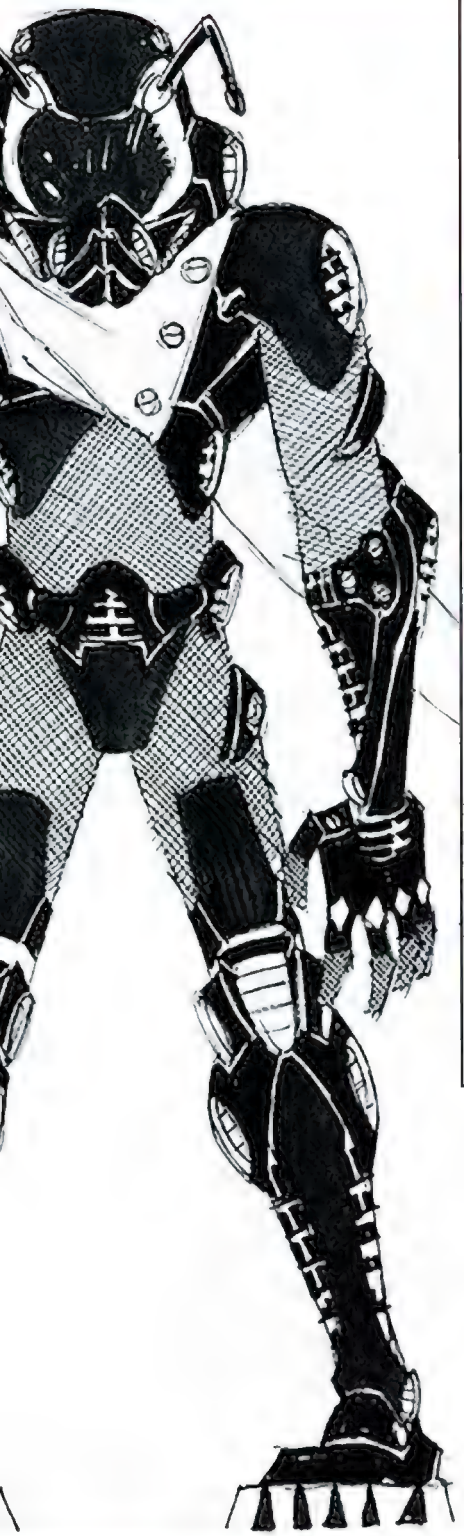
WE COULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING AMAZING, FINALLY MADE THE HEROES FEEL THE PAIN WE FEEL!
WHOO
WHOO WHOO
POLICE
I'M SAVING YOU FROM YOU, HOOD.
NO, PLEASE... YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I HAD TO DO TO GET THAT BACK!
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER ONE!

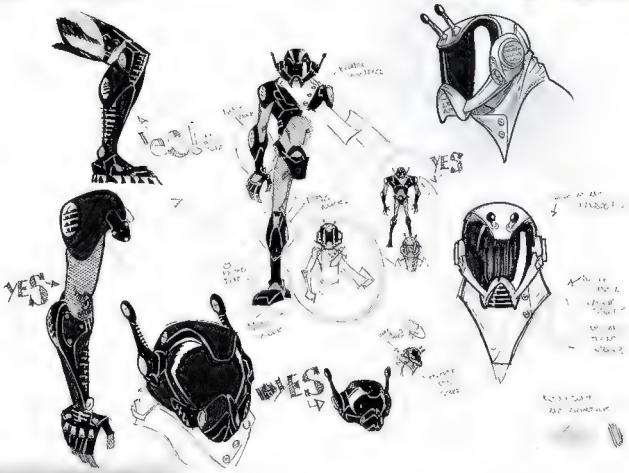
RRIPPP!
NO!
YOU THINK STANDING UP TO ME IS GOING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR PATHETIC LIFE?
YOU'RE STILL GONNA DIE IN PRISON OR ON THE STREETS.
THAT IS YOUR ENTIRE FUTURE.
YOU'RE NOT EVEN A PROPER VILLIAN!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A D-LIST HENCH--
SHUT UP.

THAT'S MY GIRL. TO THINK I COULD EVER HAVE SOME MIXED-UP FEELINGS FOR ELEKTRA.
HOW YA' DOIN'?
I'M FINE... FEELS LIKE...THE NEW POWERS THE HOOD GAVE ME WENT AWAY WHEN I DESTROYED HIS CLOAK.
DAMN, WE COULD HAVE USED THOSE RIGHT ABOUT... NOW.
WHOO WHOO
WHOO WHOO
POLICE
I'VE BEEN A BIT OF A THICK-HEADED FOOL LATELY, BABE. SO...
...WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, SKEETER? YOU'RE THE BOSS.
DO WE RUN?
OR DO WE TURN OURSELVES IN? PAY OUR DUES AND SEE IF WE CAN GET GOING ON THAT WHOLE "NORMAL LIFE" THING?
AS MUCH AS THE HOOD WAS FULL OF IT, THERE WAS SOMETHING HE SAID ABOUT "NORMAL LIVES" THAT STUCK WITH ME.
WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO HAVE EXACTLY WHAT OTHERS THINK IS A "NORMAL LIFE" BUT WE CAN STILL HAVE A GOOD ONE. ONE THAT WE DECIDE ON.
BUT FOR US? THIS CRAZY LIFE...
...IS OUR NORMAL.
ARE YOU SAYING WHAT I THINK YOU'RE SAYING?
I WANT US TO DO WHAT WE DO EVERY DAY TO SURVIVE IN THIS WORLD.
WE'RE GONNA DO WHAT WE DO BEST...

...WE FIGHT.
Ink & Dagger
THANKS FOR COMING ON THIS CRAZY CRIMINAL JOYRIDE WITH US! --THE TEAM
THE END.

# DESIGN AND PITCH MATERIALS






BY
RILEY ROSSMO
AND
SHAWN CRYSTAL

ILLUMINATI

#1 HIP-HOP VARIANT BY *BRITTANY HOLLOWAY BROWN*

#1 VARIANT BY *PAUL POPE* & *SHAY PLUMMER*

#2 VARIANT BY *JULIAN TOTINO TEDESCO*

#3 VARIANT BY *GUSTAVO DUARTE*

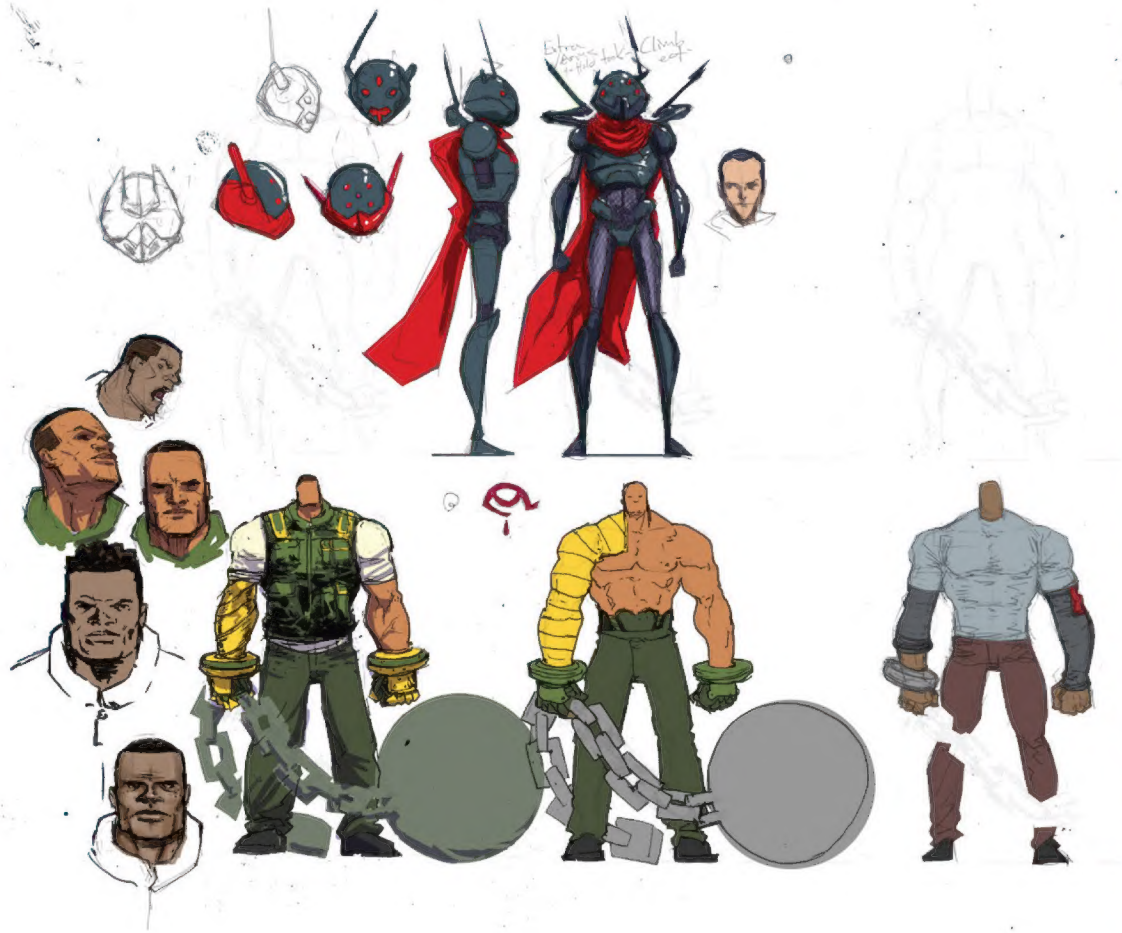
SKETCHES BY *SHAWN CRYSTAL*

# ILLUMINATI

## SKETCH GALLERY

SKETCHES BY *RILEY ROSSMO*

SKETCHES BY *RILEY ROSSMO*



SKETCHES BY *RILEY ROSSMO*

SKETCHES BY *RILEY ROSSMO*

MARVEL

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– MultiversityComics.com

## IT'S A ROUGH LIFE ON THE
# WRONG SIDE OF THE LAW.

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COLLECTING ***ILLUMINATI #1-7*** – BY JOSHUA WILLIAMSON, SHAWN CRYSTAL, MIKE HENDERSON, KEV WALKER AND JOHN RAUCH.

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